

Walsall & Willenhall CHRONICLE

Thursday, November 23, 2017

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STRONGMAN DAVE SAYS IT'S STRENGTH OF CHARACTER THAT COUNTS



'Big Dave' Gauder, with pupil Harley Mason, four

HE is the gentle giant that shown his immense strength with stunts such as pulling aeroplanes and trucks, as a result having dozens of Guinness World Records to his name.

But 'Big Dave' Gauder told a group of Black Country pupils that it is inner strength that really counts.

The popular strongman was at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Darlaston last week, as part of the national anti-bullying campaign.

Big Dave, from Birmingham, led an assembly before speaking one-to-one with pupils about having the strength to speak out about bullying.

Positive

Headteacher Kirsty Holden said: "The children absolutely adored him, he has had such a positive impact already."

"He has given them the strength to talk about bullying, to stand up and talk about it to a member of staff."

"He was able to relate it to his own school experiences and deliver the message to stand up for yourself by showing inner strength."

"We have a lot more information coming from the children showing that they know what bullying is and they have a greater understanding of the number of ways we can stop it."

"He was absolutely fabulous."

The World Champion Strongman with 26 records is also an award-winning anti-bullying campaigner.

MURDER

Killer father to serve 33 years behind bars

A KILLER father who smothered his young children with a petrol-soaked rag and then tried to kill his wife in a gas explosion at their home has been jailed for life.

Endris Mohammed, aged 47, also tried to murder his partner, Penil Teklehaimanot, by setting fire to the family home in Hamstead, Great Barr, and puncturing the gas pipes.

But the fire didn't take hold and Ms Teklehaimanot was woken by a smoke alarm.

Mohammed had denied the murders, claiming diminished responsibility allegedly caused by a depressive disorder.

Mohammed was found guilty of two counts of murder and one of attempted murder after a two-week trial and will be 80 before he gets out of jail.

He fled in his Uber cab after killing Saros and Leonor at their home in Holland Road on October 28 last year.

Mohammed claimed he had decided to end his own life over money worries but police found the family could live off his wife's earnings as a care worker.

● Snuffed out - Page 4

TRAGEDY

Inquest opens on driver who hit tree

THE inquest on a 21-year-old father who was killed when his car hit a tree has opened. Kieron Ford was driving a silver VW Golf in Ingram Road, Bloxwich, which crashed at around 11.30pm on October 20.

Despite the efforts of paramedics, he died shortly after midnight.

Mr Ford's 17-year-old brother was a passenger in the car and suffered serious internal injuries and multiple fractures. He remains in hospital.

The inquest hearing at Oldbury on Monday, heard a post-mortem revealed Mr Ford, a roofer who had lived in Harden Close, Bloxwich, died after losing a large amount of blood.

Coroner Zafar Siddique adjourned the inquest until January 29.

INSIDE

It's fur enough for Motty at Banks's



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Group member says she wanted to cry after cycles stolen BIKE THIEVES PUT BRAKES ON CLUB

MEMBERS of a cycling club have been forced to halt their activities after thieves cleared out their entire stock of bikes.

Walsall Arboretum Community Cycling Club only launched at the end of September. Many of the members are pensioners and the club gives them the opportunity to exercise and to meet others.

But thieves broke into a compound at the beauty spot and stole all 11 of their bicycles.

The group, whose oldest member is aged 85, has had to suspend outings for the time being until they can replace the equipment.

The members had received a £3,000 grant from Sport England to get the club up and running.

Lesley Easter, Cycling UK's cycling development officer for the West Midlands, said: "We had our first meeting when the bikes were delivered on September 26 and we've seen continuous high participation."

"The group is made up mostly of bright and brilliant senior citizens, most of them ladies, including Joan, the eldest at 85 years old. The bicycles were brand new, and chosen specifically for new or unconfident cyclists. It is an up-setting crime."

Tina Eglington, aged 48, used the sessions to boost her shaky confidence on two wheels and give her a new focus in life.

She said: "I'm a full-time carer

Report by Carl Jackson

for my son who has mental disabilities, so this group has been a wonderful stress reliever during the little free time I have.

"I've loved it, I can't begin to tell you how much it's changed my life. It's become a real little community, with no judgement as we're all in the same boat."

"When I heard about what happened I wanted to cry."

Cycling UK has now launched an appeal for people to donate unwanted bikes to the group so they can continue.

The group, which provides free lessons for adults, was started as part of the Big Bike Revival - a scheme and series of events across England and Scotland encouraging people to make every day journeys on their bikes.

Anyone who can help with the appeal for bikes should call the group on 01483 238 315. Anyone with information on the theft should call police on 101.



Leslie Easter, with members of the Walsall Arboretum Community Cycle Club, give the thumbs down to thieves



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Metro extension 'just the beginning'



Funding - Andy Street

A £250 million Metro extension in the Black Country is 'just the first' in a host of ambitious plans to revitalise the West Midlands economy, the region's Mayor has said.

Andy Street hailed the Government's decision to award the West Midlands Combined Authority a grant to start work on the tram line between Brierley Hill and Wednesbury. And the Conservative Mayor said that he was now committed to pushing for more funding to get other transport schemes off the ground. Mr Street made the Metro ex-

tension his number one transport priority and had lobbied the Government for funding even before he was elected as Mayor in May. "The critical thing is that's not the end," he said.

"This is just the first major step. We have got other Metro extensions, and other investments in rapid buses, so we must continue to assemble the case for more transport investment.

"We have got to start thinking about how we can put those things together."

Other transport schemes in the works include Metro extensions to Edgbas-

ton and Curzon Street in Birmingham, along with a proposal to extend the line to Birmingham Airport.

The West Midlands was the only region to be guaranteed its transport funding ahead of the Budget, which took place yesterday, Wednesday.

"We can be really clear on this. We put our bids in for the housing deal and the housing infrastructure fund, along with other combined authorities," he said.

"We always expected they were not going to be announced in the Budget. That is more likely to come in January."

Hospital's £297,000 bill for translators

CASH-STRAPPED Walsall Manor Hospital had to fork out almost £300,000 on translators last year - nearly double the amount spent the previous year.

Punjabi, Polish, Arabic and Romanian are among the most commonly requested services although Walsall Manor bosses also have to bring in people to perform sign language for deaf patients.

Bengali, Urdu, Slovak, Gujarati and Hungarian are also frequently required. Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust spent £296,815 on translation services in 2016/17, compared to sums between £153,000 and £157,000 in the three previous years.

Although they said the substantial increase last year included paying invoices for the previous 12 months after the provider for the service changed hands.

While they also stated the translation service is more in demand because it is being promoted more.

Disadvantaged

A trust spokeswoman said: "The NHS Constitution and the Equality Act (2010) requires that healthcare services are accessible to everyone who is eligible to use them, and that no members of the community are disadvantaged.

"It is important that patients understand what it is they are consenting to and any impact or risks involved. It is not appropriate for our clinical staff or patients' relatives to translate information to or from patients. It is not just issues with languages that lead patients to use the service, we also provide interpreters for people with hearing and sight disabilities."

The trust's overall financial position originally forecast a £20.5m overspend against its budget this year.

Although the latest performance report reveals they are already above that overspend target by nearly £1.9m in the first six months of the year.

Sheepish Motty and pals wear it well



Football broadcaster John Motson with Paul Fellows, left, and Tim Jones, wearing their sheepskin coats

LEGENDARY football commentator John Motson was back in the hot seat at the Banks's Stadium for the first time in 22 years and even wore his famous sheepskin coat.

It was 1995 when Motty was last in Walsall when the then Division 3 side drew 1-1 in an FA Cup clash with Leeds United who were in the Premier League. But this time the 72-year-old - who retires at the end of the season - was not describing the action of the big match but the highlights of his 50-year career.

And he had vertigo inducing memories of the ground saying: "I remember it because where I was sitting on the camera platform, I could see all the traffic on the M6 and I thought crikey!"

Motty - who has covered 10 World Cups, 10 European Championships, 29 FA Cup finals and more than 200 England games - also said he admires the family feel of Walsall FC. He said: "I know it's a very popular club. In fact a friend of mine was a ticket holder here and

he was going to an away game and he missed the coach and the Walsall chief executive took him in his car. That's the sort of human club that they are."

At the event called An Evening with John Motson last Thursday, held at the Banks's he was chatting on stage his ex-school friend and Sky sports presenter Gary Newbon.

They discussed some managers and players they knew including icons like Brian Clough, Bill Shankly and Sir Alex Ferguson.

Jail for inept burglar who was caught out by CCTV

A BUNGLING burglar who has never taken anything during a string of crimes has been jailed for two years and five months.

Terrence Clarke, of Hamstead Road, Great Barr, has been convicted of attempting to break into at least seven properties over the past 14 years but always left the scene empty-handed, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Mr Simon Hanns, prosecuting, said the 53-year-old struck during the early hours of September 28 at a house in Hamstead Road.

He was unable to gain entry, but the sophisticated CCTV system had taken his picture and emailed it to the property's owner, who was away at the time.

The photo was put on Facebook and Clarke was identified by both a former relative and a police officer, who once played rugby with him.

Clarke admitted one offence of trespass with intent to burgle and asked for another to be taken into consideration. Miss Naomi Nelson-Cofie, defending, said: "He does not want to provide an explanation or mitigation."

"Something in his life went wrong but he will not say what. He just wants to complete his sentence and restart his life."

Parliamentarians of future praised

'POLITICIANS of the future' have been praised by an MP after taking part in a Youth Parliament debate.

Valerie Vaz, Labour MP for Walsall South, welcomed young politicians to the House of Commons for the ninth annual sitting.

Members of the Youth Parliament (MYPs) took part in a series of debates, which were chosen by a million youngsters and included 'votes at 16', 'protection of LGBT+ people' and 'transport'.

Ms Vaz said: "Each MYP was brilliantly prepared and offered wonderful contributions to the debates. The MYPs showed us great hope for the future."

"All voices on all sides of the argument have been heard - and they were heard with respect. That is so important for our democracy."

Combination of cats and Christmas

CATS and Christmas combine for craft fair and cat exhibition on Saturday.

It is being organised by Colourpoint, Rex Coated and AOV Cat Club and will be at Bloxwich Leisure Centre from 10am to 4pm. The cat show opens at 12.30pm.

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'Predatory behaviour' A&E doctor is struck off

AN A&E doctor accused of being sexually aroused when he approached two female colleagues has been struck off. Dr Mohammed Yasin, aged 30, denied sexual misconduct during the incident in which he hugged them tightly.

He also allegedly moved his hands down their bodies and thrust against them, pressing his upper legs into the two women who claimed the doctor was 'pleased' to see them.

At a medical tribunal Yasin, who was working as a locum at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton, denied their claims saying the women may have been confused as he had a Nokia Candybar handset and car key fob in his trouser pocket.

He also said he hugged the women - known as Miss A and Miss B - because he wanted to 'fit in' and had seen other colleagues of a similar background to himself doing the same.

At the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service in Manchester, a disciplinary panel accepted Yasin 'may well have had such items in his pocket' at the time of the incident in April last year but found him guilty of sexually motivated conduct.

Panel chairman Richard Tutt said: "Dr Yasin abused the special position of trust a doctor occupies and demonstrated sexually motivated predatory behaviour towards two junior female colleagues in the workplace."

Vehicles seized in safety crackdown

FOUR vehicles were seized and half a dozen drivers issued warning notices during a road safety crackdown.

West Midlands Police pitched up at a spot in Bloxwich east last Wednesday, November 15, along with officials from Walsall Council, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency and HM Revenue & Customs.

A total of 24 motorists were pulled over, some for multiple offences.

Seven vehicles were reported for being in a dangerous condition, while tinted windows had to be removed from three cars. Three drivers had no insurance and two were found to have no licence.

Kevin Pitt, police, engagement and consultation officer for Walsall, said: "Further operations are planned."

Clare in concert

SINGER Clare Teal will perform in Walsall with the Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra next year. Tickets for the date at the Methodist Hall, in Ablewell Street, on March 22, at 8pm, cost £16 on 01922 627686.

Transit site plans still moving forward

PLANS to develop a travellers transit site in Walsall are still being looked at despite the latest set of injunctions secured across the borough.

Community and leisure chief Councillor Ian Shires has said that having the 11 new traveller injunctions brought in is welcome news but added more needs to be done to prevent further problems in the future. The idea of setting up a transit site was mooted earlier this year and Councillor Shires has said that a recent visit to Widnes

to see how such a site works proved to him that setting up one in Walsall is 'the right thing to do'.

Councillor Shires said: "We now have 24 sites protected by injunctions. We have increased the number of officers in our community protection team and we are actively looking for a plot of land which can be used as a transit site for travellers were they can stay for up to three months for which they would pay rent. We recently visited such a site in the North

West where travellers can be directed to. If they don't go onto the transit site then the police have the powers to move them on straight away. No waiting for court orders, it's done there and then. This way we won't be chasing our tails all the time.

"At present, illegal encampments cost us around £300,000 a year but the cost of running and maintaining a travellers site is around £30,000 a year, so money we save can be put back into frontline services."

Sites including beauty spot Barr Beacon, where more than 40 caravans were set up last month, are now covered by a court injunction.

They also cover Aldridge Airport, Walsall Arboretum, King George V Playing Fields in Bloxwich, Pelsall Common, Swannies Field and The Lea, The Croft in Aldridge, Victoria Park in Darlaston, the Wakes Ground car and lorry park in Willenhall, Wolverhampton Street car park and Aldridge Community Centre.

Five Star service on way at community centre

A NEW day centre for people with learning disabilities has opened its doors with bosses declaring: "We are here to make a difference".

The Five Star Community Centre, which is based on Willenhall Road, Darlaston, is now open after three years of hard work from managers Claire Neary and Wayne Haskett.

The site includes a sensory room, activity hub, function room with a bar and a cafe and will be open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm.

The team is hopeful that the site can combat cuts to adult social care services across the borough and bring the community together.

Registering

Claire, who has worked in care for 30 years, said: "This has taken us three years to get together, taking into account registering with the CQC and getting the building ready."

"We are ready now and hope to become a key part of our community, we think our centre can offer services to people with learning disabilities that they can't get elsewhere, our sensory room in particular is really special and something we are very proud to have."

"We are not here to make millions, we are here to make a difference to the lives of people who need our help."

The centre will take stock of how many members of staff are required after a few months of seeing how much the site is used.

The opening day was attended by Walsall mayor councillor Marco Longhi, who cut the ribbon at an official opening ceremony.

Claire said: "It was great for us to have the mayor come along and support us, it really means a lot."

"The opening day went great and we hope to be working with the community very soon."



Mayor Marco Longhi opens the centre with Jennifer Oldacres, Wayne Haskett, Wendy Owen, Michelle Kelly and Claire Neary



Mayor Marco Longhi chats to service user Steven Harvey with Wayne Haskett at the premises in Darlaston



Youngsters at play in the Hub at the centre



Claire Neary in the sensory room at the Five Star Community Centre in Darlaston



The main hall, a function room which features facilities such as a cafe and a bar to serve the community

NEWS IN BRIEF

Collecting festive gifts for children

CENTRAL England Co-operative Travel is collecting items for Acorns Children's Hospice.

Toys, games, book, DVDs, clothing and ornaments can all be donated to the store in Great Barr until December 13, helping to spread Christmas cheer to children with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.

Lisa Howell, branch manager, said: "We all think Acorns is an amazing charity which gives access to care and support for these children."

"We would like to think if we were ever put into this devastating position there are organisations like Acorns to support us."

Circular walk by ramblers on way

THE Walsall Group of the Ramblers will be heading to Alrewas for a 7.5 mile circular walk on Sunday.

'Two Rivers and a Cut' is a moderate walk on the Trent and Mersey Canal, River Trent and the River Swarbour on field paths and tracks, taking in part of the Millennium Way.

Non-members are always welcome and can obtain more information from the walk leaders on 07740 738 410 or 07970 986 367. More information about the Walsall Group is available on our website www.walsallramblers.org.uk also find us on Facebook.

General knowledge quiz aids hospice

QUIZ buffs can get their thinking caps on in aid of charity tomorrow night (Friday).

The general knowledge test, in aid of St Giles Hospice, Walsall, takes place at Hawkins Sports & Social Club, Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay, from 8.30pm.

Entry fee for teams of up to five players is £10. There will also be a raffle, stand-up bingo and samosas and cobs on sale.

To register a team call 01922 602520 or email georgina.bates@stgiles-hospice.com

Tidy up at pub site to clear way for homes

WORK has begun to clear up an old pub site to make way for housing.

A section 215 notice demanding the owners of land at the former Cavalcade pub on Stroud Avenue, Willenhall, tidy up the site, was issued in September. The pub was demolished in 2010, with plans to build homes on the site approved last year.

Willenhall North councillor Ian Shires has welcomed the start of work to clear the site in response.

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COUNTY NEWS

£284k raised at seized car auction

TWENTY three BMWs and 17 Audis were among 180 seized vehicles which have been sold at auction by West Midlands Police.

The haul has raised £284,480 for the force and included one vehicle sold for £19,700.

Not all cars seized by the police were sold at auction, with 4,740 so far sent for crushing this year.

In total 8,091 have been seized from the roads in 2017, most for being uninsured.

The vehicles seized are part of a crackdown by police on uninsured and unlicensed drivers over the past 12 months.

Moorhouse and Delaney on bill

COMEDIANS Justin Moorhouse and Gary Delaney will be performing in the next Live at the Civic comedy night at Brierley Hill Civic Hall in the new year.

The show is on February 17 with tickets £10 if booked by the end of this month from bhillecivic.co.uk

Moorhouse has appeared on the likes of Live At The Apollo and 8 Out Of 10 Cats, is a regular panellist on Five Live's Fighting Talk and has starred in Coronation Street. Gary Delaney, married to fellow comic Sarah Millican, is a Mock The Week regular.

The host will be Dudley rising star Wayne Beese.

Show added to channel schedule

A NEW magazine show has been added to the schedule at Made Television, the national city TV network.

The Big Daily is broadcast at 6.30pm each week night on all the Made stations including Made in Birmingham.

Hosted by Mel Crawford and Tom Evans, it includes updates on the latest events and entertainment news from across the region, plus regular segments on food and music performances.

Rock legends Iron Maiden back in Brum

LEGENDARY rockers Iron Maiden return to Birmingham next year.

Formed in 1975, the band have released 38 albums – including live recordings, EPs and compilations.

Their 16th studio album, The Book of Souls, was released in 2015.

Iron Maiden will play Birmingham's Genting Arena on August 7. Tickets will go on sale from 9am on November 24.

Victoria Cross hero gets plaque honour

A VICTORIA Cross hero who rushed to save his captain from certain death in battle 160 years ago has been honoured with a plaque.

William James Thompson was serving with The King's Royal Rifle Corps during the Indian Mutiny when on July 9, 1857, he saved the life of Captain Wilson. The captain was surrounded by a party of Ghazees, who had made a sudden attack on him.

Noticing the predicament of his officer the Staffordshire-born soldier rushed to his aid, and killed two of the attackers. It was also mentioned in his citation that his conduct throughout the Siege of Lucknow was conspicuous in its gallantry. He was elected by members of his regiment and presented with his VC by Queen Victoria at Home Park, Windsor Castle on November 9, 1860. And at Walsall



Mayor Marco Longhi with Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Walsall, Colonel Tom Lloyd at the plaque

Leather Museum there was a ceremony to unveil a new plaque for him. It joins two other plaques at the museum for VC heroes. One for Ordinary Seaman John Henry Carless and another for Royal Naval Reserve Charles Bonner. A service was held at St Mary's The Mount Catholic Primary



From left, VC hero William James Thompson, Charles George Bonner and Seaman John Henry Carless

School in Walsall to mark 100 years to the day that John Henry Carless died.

An Ordinary Seaman for the Royal Navy, Carless was aboard the HMS Caledon on November 17, 1907, during the Battle of Heligoland Bight, when he was mortally wounded in the abdomen. But he fought on bravely

helping other injured men and continued to man his gun position until he collapsed and died.

Carless was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross in June 1918.

Mayor of Walsall Marco Longhi said: "Members of the Carless family asked me if I wanted to be involved with commemorating 100 years since his death and I said absolutely. When Walsall Council found out what I was doing they said why don't we mark all three Victoria Cross winners, in particular James Thompson who unfortunately became a pauper."

"We were concerned he didn't have a commemorative stone. He is buried at Queen Street Cemetery, although we do not know the specific location, but it would not have been appropriate to have the stone there so we had it here at the leather museum."

Killer father told: You snuffed out young lives

By Annabal Bagdi

"YOU deliberately snuffed out their young lives," the words of a judge who addressed a murdering father who smothered his young children with a rag soaked in petrol.

Endris Mohammed must serve a minimum of 33 years as Mr Justice Andrew Gilbart jailed him for life at Birmingham Crown Court. Mohammed murdered his son Saros, aged eight, his daughter Leonor, six and then tried to kill his wife in a gas explosion at their home.



Endris Mohammed - set car alight

The 47-year-old also tried to murder his partner, Penil Teklehaimanot, by setting fire to the family home in Hamstead, Great Barr, and puncturing the gas pipes. But the fire didn't take hold and Ms Teklehaimanot was woken by a smoke alarm.

Mohammed – who originally came to the UK from Ethiopia – had denied the murders, claiming diminished responsibility allegedly caused by a depressive disorder.

But Mr Justice Andrew Gilbart said: "You designed to kill all three."

Passing sentence at Birmingham Crown Court, Mr Justice Gilbart told Mohammed: "This country has a long proud history of welcoming those from abroad who flee from persecution. Both of you had done so, and established your lives here in Birmingham, along with your two children.



Siblings Saros, aged eight and Leonor, aged six, who were murdered by their father

"However that secure and apparently happy family life was destroyed by you."

The Judge said the children had trusted their father and were enjoying a half-term 'sleepover' downstairs at the house. "You repaid their trust in you by killing them," he added.

Mohammed smothered the two children with a petrol-soaked rag before starting a blaze.

The kitchen cooker was dislodged, leaking gas into the home, the back door locked and the key tossed onto the front lawn, denying the family any chance of escape, prosecutor Mr Jonas Hankin QC had told the court.

The bodies of the children were pulled from the house as it went up in flames by their mother and a

neighbour, before being placed on the garden. The trial heard how little Leonor was briefly revived at the scene but died later in hospital.

Mohammed was driving on the M6 as neighbours and paramedics battled to save his children, with his taxi later set on fire 40 miles away in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire.

The killer was found on the ground next to the vehicle with serious burns and spent three months in hospital.

He fled in his Uber cab after killing Saros and Leonor in Holland Road on October 28 last year.

The taxi driver, who has set his car alight on the night of the killings, had admitted smothering his children.

Rapists let off with a caution, in new figures

RAPISTS, paedophiles and drug dealers are among offenders being 'let off' with cautions in the West Midlands.

More than 8,000 cautions, where a criminal admits an offence, have been issued in the region over the last two years, including some for sexual offences against children.

The figures were today branded as 'sickening' by campaigners. The information, released under the Freedom of Information Act, shows cautions were issued in the West Midlands:

- 49 times for sexual offences on women aged 13 and older and once for a rape of a girl aged between 13 and 15
- 189 times for wilful neglect of a child
- Eight times when adults had sexual activity with a girl
- Eight times for carrying imitation firearms or air guns.

But police said the information in the FOI shouldn't be taken 'out of context' and that cautions carry 'real sanctions' with 'long-term implications'. The figures show that hundreds of drug users were issued with cautions, including one case of possession of crystal meth, 270 cases of cocaine, 25 crack cocaine, 51 heroin, and 902 for cannabis. A total of 19 drug dealers were also cautioned.

There was also one caution issued for bigamy.

Campaigner Ian Jenkins used an FOI to reveal the figures. The Midlands Lib Dem activist said: "It is completely unacceptable to give cautions for rape or sexual assaults, including children. It is sickening and will make people think that evil paedophiles and abusers can commit these acts."

Woman sees off bogus salesmen

AN elderly woman whacked a pair of bogus callers with her stick when she suspected they were trying to trick their way into her home.

Two people approached the property on Fullbrook Road, in The Delves, trying to sell gold, but having been targeted before the woman questioned the culprits.

She rebuffed them with her stick when one of the suspects put his foot in the doorway.

West Midlands Police said it was now investigating after the woman reported the incident to them. It happened at around 2.30pm on November 10. Neighbourhood officers have been on the lookout for suspicious callers.

Anyone with information which could help the inquiry should call police on 101.

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Firm fined £390k after worker is left injured

A FIRM has been fined £390,000 and told to pay £24,000 costs after a welder was crushed by a 2.8 ton cylinder.

Andrew King was known to be doing a potentially dangerous job when disaster struck but The Angle Ring Company had not prepared a risk assessment for it, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The 36-year-old was using a propane lamp to weld plates onto the cylinder when it tipped forward and fell on him at the Broomfield Road, Tipton works on November 11, 2014.

It fractured his left leg in three places and lacerated the right leg. The injuries could have been worse if a post had not inadvertently halted the cylinder. Mr King, who had worked at the firm for four years, said: "I shouted for help and felt blood inside by welder visor." He was off work for nine months and is still suffering psychologically.

There was a known danger of it moving forward during the process but Mr King had not been warned about the possibility, said Mr Harpreet Sandhu, on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive. He said: "There should've been a site specific risk assessment for this hazardous work." Anti-creep devices have since been installed by the steel bending firm.

The firm, which had a previous health and safety breach conviction, pleaded guilty to failing to ensure the health and welfare of an employee.

Disability event is hosted by MP

WALSALL South MP Valerie Vaz hosts a Disability Confident event tomorrow (Friday).

It is being run with the Department for Work and Pensions and Walsall Council in The Foyer, Walsall Council House, Lichfield Street, from noon to 1pm.

Through the Disability Confident scheme, the Government is working with employers to challenge attitudes, increase understanding of disability and ensure disabled people have the opportunities to fulfil their potential.

Ms Vaz said: "The Disability Confident event will also be an opportunity to hear about the support available in Walsall for disabled people to fulfil their potential and realise their aspirations."

Church festive fair

A METHODIST church in Walsall is holding a Christmas fair this weekend. It takes place at Coalpool Methodist Church, in Coalpool Lane, at 11am on Saturday and will feature homemade cakes, toys and a raffle.

Teacher censured over saucy emails

A TEACHER used school equipment to send a message to a member of the public asking them to dress as a pupil 'with white knickers'.

Christopher Perry sent a number of emails 'of a sexual nature' from the device whilst working at St Francis Primary School in Shelfield, Walsall.

He was sacked after failing to stop when asked to by bosses, but can stay in the profession.

The messages were not sent to anyone connected to the school, or deemed criminal, but a regulator has described them as 'misconduct of a serious nature which significantly fell short of standards expected'.

Among the emails sent by Mr Perry throughout October and November, 2016 was one which instructed the recipient to 'perform acts upon me' live on online chat site Omegle.

Another read: "I have always wanted to see you standing naked full length in the mirror with your beautiful hair flowing off your shoulders smiling at me."

In a further message Mr Perry said he 'required' someone to dress as a school girl.

The Department for Education has ruled Mr Perry can remain in the profession after he admitted sending the emails.

A professional conduct panel report reviewed the incidents stating that publishing the details of his misdemeanours would be enough to 'send a message' to the teacher without any further sanction.

Their report said: "Mr Perry has failed to act with integrity and has failed to demonstrate consistently high standards of personal and professional conduct."

It added: "After careful consideration the panel has concluded that Mr Perry's conduct was not so serious as to justify prohibition from the profession."

A joint statement from the school and Birmingham Diocese said: "The school follows the robust ICT safeguarding system provided by Walsall Council. The school immediately contacted the appropriate authorities, suspended the individual responsible and started a thorough investigation resulting in dismissal last December."

Pupils send out Frank message over prejudice

STUDENTS took part in a performance at Walsall College to mark the launch of a month-long Anne Frank exhibition.

Pupils from Heath Park School in Wednesfield students joined with pupils of Holly Hall Academy, Dudley, for the performance.

The pupils were inspired by teenage diarist Anne Frank, who famously charted her family's time in hiding from German Nazis in Amsterdam. She died in Belsen concentration camp just weeks before it was liberated.

The pupils, ambassadors for the Anne Frank Trust, investigated discrimination 70 years ago and compared it with prejudice today.

The exhibition was launched on the 79th anniversary of Kristallnacht, or the Night of Broken Glass, which saw the organised destruction of Jewish businesses and homes in Munich, and attacks on Jewish men, women and children in 1938.

Libby Peers, assistant head at Heath Park, which hosted the exhibition for two weeks last June, said the collaboration with Holly Hall led to them exploring two aspects of Anne Frank's story, with the Dudley school focusing on the wartime prejudices.



Holly Hall Academy students tell the story of prejudice in Anne Franks's time

Testimony

Pupils took on the role of different characters, including Nazi perpetrators as well as their victims, some of them using personal testimony from the time. Walsall mayor Marco Longhi welcomed the exhibition to the town, outlining the mix of cultures in his own extended family of Italian, Irish, Brazilian, Hungarian and Chinese.

Special guest was Holocaust survivor Mindu Hornick who at 13 was sent to Auschwitz with her mother, sister and two younger brothers. Now 88 and a grandmother, she lives in Birmingham and is dedicated to educating young people about the Holocaust. She will tell her story at Walsall College on the day the exhibition closes, December 6.

Also present was Ahmad Nawad, 16, who survived a Taliban attack on his school in Pakistan in 2014 when 130 fellow pupils died. He now lives in Birmingham and visits schools across the UK to talk about his ordeal.

The display looks at Anne Frank's childhood in Frankfurt and Amsterdam, with family images, wartime registration cards, a replica of her diary and photos she had on her wall in hiding. It also features modern day examples of discrimination.



Diarist Anne Frank, who died at the age of 15



Pictures on the wall of Anne Frank's secret annexe

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thieves target vans, warning

THIEVES are increasingly targeting vans across Walsall on the lookout for tools, owners have been warned.

The culprits are typically forcing locks or smashing windows to snatch what ever valuables they can.

West Midlands Police has advised people to consider investing in additional security measures.

Kevin Pitt, police engagement and consultation officer, for Walsall said: "There has been an increase in thefts from parked vans across Walsall Borough recently, so we're asking owners to pay attention to their vehicle's security in order to safeguard their livelihood."

Boy, 16, charged after gun found

A TEENAGER has been charged with possessing a loaded handgun after officers stopped a car in Great Barr.

The 16-year-old from Woking, who cannot be named, was arrested in Old Horns Crescent, just after midnight on November 15.

A 17-year-old from Birmingham was also arrested and has been charged with possession of a knife.

A 26-year-old from Birmingham, Mustafa Ali, was charged with having a gun and ammunition and Class A drugs after a search of his home in Meadowsweet Avenue, Kings Norton.

Bigger homeless shelter approved

COUNCIL chiefs in Walsall have approved a plan for a larger homeless shelter in the town centre this winter, to be open for three months instead of one.

The shelter will now open on December 1 at 40 Darwall Street, which used to house Walsall Council's electoral registration department.

It will have 26 beds, eight more than the one at last year's venue the Glebe Centre in Caldmore.

Social care chief Councillor Diane Coughlan said: "I am thrilled planning approval has gone through."

Tickets on sale for ELO hometown gig

JEFF Lynne's Electric Light Orchestra will return to their home town of Birmingham next year.

The band, which formed in 1971 with Bev Bevan and Roy Wood as members, has had many hits including Mr Blue Sky, Living Thing, Evil Woman, Roll Over Beethoven and Don't Bring Me Down.

They will play Arena Birmingham on October 10. Tickets for the show go on sale tomorrow (Friday) at 9am.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Art price is manic Mundi for collector

WE'VE all been there at some time or other. You put a few quid away each month, build yourself a nice little nest egg, and then the mid-life crisis beckons.

It's just the way life goes. One minute you don't have two pennies to rub together, then suddenly you think to yourself "I've got a spare £360 million knocking about in the bank earning a paltry interest rate. I think I will spend it on a picture for the dining room instead."

Well that's what seems to have happened for one person at least. Last week, a tatty and not-particularly attractive painting that might be by Leonardo Da Vinci, fetched a staggering 450 million



Salvator Mundi, or saviour of the world

dollars at Christies in New York. That's £360 million in real money.

Now, I'm the first to admit I know nothing about fine art. When it comes to the masters, I'm a card-carrying philistine. I mean, The Mona Lisa? Yes,

it's better than I can do, but most things are. What differentiates that from, say, the work of a good art college lecturer?

Some years ago, I saw the celebrated paintings of Dudley by J W M Turner, which used to hang in the town's art gallery before it closed. I suppose I ought to say what an uplifting and enriching experience it was, but to be honest I thought they were a bit of a mess.

I certainly prefer the work of Black Country artist, and all-round nice guy, Graham Colbourne. But while Turner's works are priceless treasures, Graham donates his to local charities. Yet even among those in the know, the £360m painting has received a distinctly lukewarm reaction.

Jason Farago, of the New York Times called it "a proficient but not especially distinguished religious picture from turn-of-the-16th-century Lombardy, put through a wringer of restorations."

What does interest me, though, is that in 1958 the same picture sold for £45, or just under a grand when you allow for inflation. Back then, it was not thought to be by Da Vinci, so the inflated price is solely about who painted it, rather than any merit it might possess.

Which is just as well, because if I wanted that on my wall, I would not be crossing the Atlantic with my chequebook. I would cut the print out of the catalogue, and head down to Wilko for a frame.

Sometimes best to leave smartphone in your pocket



Adrian Edmondson – and which Shakespearean role will be next for him?



Sathnam Sanghera – success from what was once there for many working-class kids



Theresa May – where politics is involved, there's no legal lock that can't be picked

Paramedic: No need to shame notewriter

PARAMEDICS on an emergency call in Birmingham found this message on their ambulance: "You may be saving lives but don't park your van in a stupid place and block my drive." A paramedic posted the note on social media. But why? We pay paramedics to save lives, not to turn their job into photo-opportunities, nor to score points off members of the public who offend them. The paramedics could not have known the mental state of the person writing the note, nor the effects on him – or on neighbourhood relationships – of blabbing it online. It may be hard to believe in this Twitter-obsessed age but there are times when the best thing you can do with your smartphone is leave it in your pocket.

EARLY-morning mumbling. I heard a radio reporter describing an increase in the number of councils enforcing debts by the use of bayonets. Bailiffs, apparently.

IT'S excellent to see Adrian Edmondson getting rave reviews as the pompous old steward Malvolio in Twelfth Night at Stratford. I had lunch with him once in a wine bar in Wolverhampton and I can't recall an interview attracting so much interest, and obvious affection, from customers. It was inevitable that The Young Ones generation would eventually make it to the classical stage; Lenny Henry once told me his dream was to play Malvolio. And then he went off and did a memorable Othello instead. And what Shakespearean role will next beckon Mr Edmondson, still best remembered for those frenetic frying-pan fights with Rik Mayall? Bottom, perhaps?

IF Moscow really is planting fake news to bring down the West, expect it to be a well-con-

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



cealed operation. You know how it is. You open one Russian troll and there's another troll inside.

THANKS for your memories of words spoken by teachers many years ago which have stuck in your memory. A reader who taught geography for 40 years describes asking one of his former pupils what, if anything, he remembered about his lessons. "I was hoping for some profound geographical memory," he says. Instead, the pupil recalled: "I spilt some ink on the classroom carpet and you called me a berk".

AND before some of you of a certain age reach for the keyboard for a good harrumph, I am ahead of you. Carpet in the classroom? Luxury.

I WROTE recently about the Co-op Bank no longer supplying addressed envelopes for customers to send their credit-card payments. A reader asks: "When did banks do anything to help their customers?" The common view of business, he says, is that their idea of "helping" customers is to make it increasingly difficult to contact them by letter or phone. If you're not on email, you're stuffed.

UNDER the headline "CoE to allow boys to wear dresses," the latest Private Eye magazine pokes fun at the Church of England which has suggested children should be able to "try out the many cloaks of identity," with little boys being allowed to wear tutus and girls to wear

tool belts if they wish. The Eye makes the point that CoFE clergy are regularly seen in elaborate "non-gender" vestments. This surely rings a bell with older Eye readers who recall a classic 1986 front cover during the furious debate on female ordination. It showed three smiling bishops in their magnificent flowing robes with the caption: "Who needs women priests when they've got us?"

I WATCHED The Boy with the Topknot (BBC2), Sathnam Sanghera's tale of growing up in Wolverhampton in a family stalked by mental illness. Later, I picked up the copy of his book he presented to me nine years ago. In the acknowledgments he noted: "I would like to thank Peter Rhodes . . . for giving me my first break in journalism." I'm proud of helping this gifted young writer to get started in his career although, to be honest, I can't recall doing much more than offering a few tips. The real leap forward in Sathnam Sanghera's life came from something once available to millions of bright working-class kids. A grammar-school education.

FASCINATING to see Theresa May "locking in" the timing of Britain leaving the EU by writing the departure date into law. I seem to recall that the timing of general elections was locked into law, setting them at five-yearly intervals, until Mrs May thought a snap election would be a good idea. When politics is involved, there ain't a legal lock that can't be picked.

HOWARDS End. That's the correct title. No apostrophe. I can't explain it either. Nor can I explain why a TV series has been made when a perfectly fine movie of Howards End already exists.

TALKING POINT



Kindness can create a lasting memory

Why do we always hear 'there's a lot of bad 'uns out there'? Yes I am sure that is the case but there are also a lot of good 'uns as well, so let's hear more about them instead.

It is a shame that sometimes it does take something bad to happen to really show the true character of people.

Often the people you think will be there by your side disappear into thin air, but maybe somebody you feel you hardly know, or don't know at all, goes above and beyond.

And with all the awful atrocities this year, somewhere, among all the tragedy and sadness, there are tales of heroism, kindness, on both a small and major scale. And sometimes it is the people you think least likely to step up – people dropping kids at school, on their way to work, popped out to get a paper, or just on a night out with mates – who step in to help. And even if, at the time, the help seemed minimal, it is how it makes the victim feel – supported, not alone.

There was an incident recently which summed up how a little thought can go such a long way. My daughter-in-law was on the motorway when the exhaust dropped off her car. With two children in the back of the car she quickly pulled onto the hard shoulder and rang for help.

The highway patrol turned up to advise and luckily she had breakdown cover.

So it was a case of waiting, probably for the best part of an hour, on the hard shoulder. As advised they got out of the car and stood outside.

It was cold, windy and wet and trying to keep two children warm and a two-year-old from straying into danger is no mean feat as the cars race by. She called us from the roadside, scared and cold.

Cars sped past but one kind man pulled over and offered her drinks and crisps for the kids and a coat to keep them warm.

It probably cost him next to nothing but the difference that made to the situation was immense. When she safely arrived at her mum's after having her car towed there, she called us to say all was fine.

And the thing she most remembered was not the fear and cold but the fact that somebody had stopped to help. A little kindness, a lasting memory.

Her mum put something on Facebook, and I hope he saw it, or somebody who knows him told him, as he deserves praise for what he did.

OK you might say a small gesture – crisps and drinks don't cost a lot – but for those few minutes the situation changed from despair to a warm glow at somebody's kindness. So you see, there are a lot of good people out there.

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Hole device moved stationery forward

IT'S the small things that change lives for the greater good, things like the humble mouse trap, or the corkscrew.

The bigger innovations, like nuclear power, don't impact so personally. The other day we celebrated the 131st anniversary of the hole punch, and by default, the ring binder, two stationery items that complement themselves perfectly. Back in 1886 a German office supplier and inventor called Friedrich Soenneken designed and made the perfect tool that was to revolutionise document storage globally. Having conquered the hole prob-

lem, he came up with the ring binder, and today these two innovations can be seen on office shelves worldwide. Two years after these new office items were adopted, the Jack the Ripper murders made world headlines. The Whitechapel area that borders the city of London suffered the grisly deaths of five prostitutes, and so started the long slow process of establishing the identity of the murderer. Over the years the tens of thousands of pages on the Ripper murders have been securely held by two of the most simple of designs. It's a sobering thought that when we

transgress, and it is documented, today some 131 years after the most simple of storage designs ever invented, the chances of our misdeeds ending up in a government file are still high.

Even though the computer has taken over the job of storing data, when the system crashes, and the data is lost, dusty files will be retrieved from long forgotten basement storage facilities, and historians will be able to see, in black and white, the history of man, in a ring binder, on paper, with holes in.

TONY LEVY
Wednesday

Self-help on diesel perils to beat costs

A RECENT study showed that diesel car owners are choosing to have their diesel particulate filters (DPFs) removed to avoid costly re-placements.

This is not only a poor decision, but one that leads to greater costs and further problems.

Motorists found to have a Euro VI vehicle not with a DPF can be prosecuted and fined £1,000. By removing the DPF, drivers instead spread toxic pollution 20 times greater than that of a normal diesel car.

DPFs can often become blocked or too dirty to function, causing issues like higher diesel fuel consumption, lack of power or torque and elevated system pressure. Costing thousands of pounds to replace, most drivers are not aware that these issues can be avoided by regularly cleaning their DPF with a specialised liquid additive.

MARK BURNETT
VP Lubricants &
Fuel Additives, Bilston

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Walsall Chronicle,
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Why we should leave Prime Minister alone

IS it only me who is fed up to the back teeth with the media and its constant sniping at Theresa May? She has a difficult enough job without TV and newspapers constantly speculating how long she will last as PM and how weak her Government position is. We are at a vital time in our country's history when we are on the verge of setting the UK free from the yoke of a bullying EU who, instead of having meaningful talks, keep repeating that the UK must make itself 'clearer'.

This is a euphemism for them saying they want us to continue paying for their lavish excesses. Leave Mrs May alone and get behind the Brexit negotiators. Otherwise Theresa May could be tempted to tweet what she thinks of us all, just like the President of the United States.

ALAN DAVIS
Darlaston

Red card to council on City Ground

MUCH has been written about the dereliction and neglect of the once proud City Ground in Darlaston.

We have a marvellous organisation, 240 (Darlaston) Squadron ATC which offers local youngsters a vital and enthusiastic start in life in their ranks.

The ATC would develop the City Ground as a training site and activity centre for the benefit of their members and young people in our town. Working with our Scout groups the derelict ground would become a Centre of Excellence for local youth organisations and charities. I have begun a petition in support of this.

We have all heard the hollow platitudes from the powers that be about the 'best start in life', 'keeping young people safe' and 'healthy activities for all'. Sadly Darlaston locals have given Walsall Council a red card on their lack of action over the City Ground.

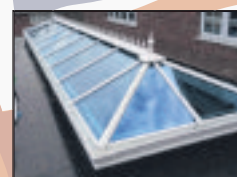
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Dave hits right chord to back appeal



Flamboyant Slade rocker Dave Hill is backing the Chronicle and Express & Star's Feed a Family campaign

IN the words of that famous song, 'It's Christmaaaaaa!', and now Slade guitarist is following on from those heady days of his band's domination of the festive season, by backing our Feed a Family This Christmas appeal.

Dave said he would be backing the appeal by the Express & Star and Chronicle, with its festive appeal to support the county's vulnerable at Christmas.

The 71-year-old added: "Anything to do with a good cause like this, I'm happy to support. It's really good that the paper is doing this."

We are collecting donations of non-perishable food which will be handed to food banks and other charitable organisations across the region.

THE DROP-OFF POINTS:

Express & Star Wolverhampton, 51-53 Queen Street, WV1 1ES; Express & Star Cannock/Walsall office, Queen Square, Cannock WS11 1EA; The Saddlers Centre, Walsall town centre.

DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE DROPPED OFF AT:

Waitrose Wolverhampton, Penn Road, WV2 4NJ; The Midcounties Co-operative Food Store Codsall, 28-32 Wood Lane/Bakers Way, Codsall WV8 1DB. Donations dropped off at those will go to The Well.



Readers can donate festive food, as well as basics. Non-food items such as toiletries, baby supplies, new socks and small presents are also welcome.

Good causes set to benefit are The Well (Home of Wolverhampton Food Bank), Wolverhampton's the Good

Shepherd Ministry, the Black Country Food Bank, the Smethwick Food Bank, Walsall North Food Bank and Cannock and District Food Bank.

The appeal will also support The Haven, which helps women and children affected by domestic violence.



Carers Rights Day 2017
is on
Friday 24th November

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Model Erin 'humbled' by towering accolade

SIX foot model Erin O'Connor, from Brownhills, has admitted she felt very tall standing in front of The Queen as she was honoured with an MBE.

Honoured for her services to fashion and charity, she said the experience of collecting her honour was "surreal", but one that was "incredible and humbling".

During the investiture ceremony at Buckingham Palace, O'Connor admitted she felt "very tall" standing in front of Her Majesty.

"Her Majesty is someone I greatly admire, and I am still shocked that I got to meet her in this lifetime, so that feels really special," the model, aged 39, said. "This has probably been the ultimate experience of my life."

Fun

The model, a former pupil at Brownhills Community School, dressed for the occasion in a black velvet coat, featuring a military front and bustle back, along with silk ruffles on the sleeves.

It was designed by Giles Deacon, who also created Pippa Middleton's wedding dress.

O'Connor also wore a fascinator by milliner Stephen Jones - who has previously designed items for the Duchess of Cambridge.

"It was fun putting it all together, but of course for the first time in my adult life I have had something specifically made for me and not to wear on behalf of anyone else," she added.

A founding member of the initiative called All Walks Beyond the Catwalk, O'Connor said it was formed because it was felt there was a gap within the industry when it came to size, ethnicity, gender and age.



The 6ft tall model felt 'humbled' Erin towered above The Queen at the investiture

MPs back extra funding call

MPS from the West Midlands have urged the Chancellor to give the region more funding to boost skills and infrastructure.

Ahead of the Budget yesterday (Wednesday), 36 MPs from across the political divide have given their backing to Tory mayor Andy Street's proposals for stage two of the region's devolution deal.

The group, which includes Walsall

North's Eddie Hughes and Wendy Morton, Aldridge-Brownhills MP, has written to Philip Hammond asking for more money and devolved powers to the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Mr Hughes said: "Tackling housing, homelessness, transport and skills - as well as supporting local business - are key to unlocking the region's potential."

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Sculptures immortalise hero Great War soldiers

PERMANENT sculptures are being installed to commemorate the efforts of the heroic Great War soldiers who helped to create a Willenhall park.

A £50,000 revamp at Willenhall Memorial Park will see the creation of a heritage trail, new borders, a remembrance garden and access improvements around the pavilion and bowling green.

But catching the eye already is one of six sculptures dedicated to the soldiers who helped construct the park in the 1920s.

This one was carved with a chainsaw by artist Robot Cossey. Another spectacular feature in development is a soldier made out of 2,000 poppies.

Stories

The memorial garden will complement a commemoration day in the pipeline as part of the Heritage Lottery Funded 'First World War; then and now' project which aims to research the stories of the servicemen who returned from the war to develop the park.

The money for the revamp has been granted by Cory Environmental to The Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park who have appealed for locals to dig out old photographs, newspaper clippings, documents, letters, keepsakes or even just pass on stories to help them find out the names of the veterans.

Other contributors include artists from Planet Art, horticulturalists Roots to Fruit and garden designer Darren Rudge Landscapes.

The project will be promoted at the Willenhall Town Centre Christmas Event on Saturday, December 2



Community liaison officer Ray Ebanks, Councillor Carl Creaney and development officer Alison Bate with the sculpture carved by Robot Cossey

in Market Place. Alan Wood, Friends group chairman, said: "The funding provided for this project by Cory Environmental Trust Britain is hugely appreciated."

"We have already benefited from the border renovations that Roots to Fruit has created and park users love the work they do with our community."

Walsall Council's clean and green

chief, Chris Jones said: "We are delighted to have secured the best of Walsall's local artists and garden designers to create some very special features in Willenhall Memorial Park."

"The project will support all the First World War activities taking place in the next 12 months, with our special commemorative event being planned for summer 2018."

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Christmas bargains at old BHS unit



The pop-up shop on Park Street, Walsall, formerly BHS, will be open until Christmas Eve

WALSALL'S former BHS shop is now looking a ho, ho, whole lot different.

The empty town centre building has become a Christmas pop-up shop, selling items such as tinsel, wrapping paper and ribbon - all for £1.

Called No 1 for Christmas, the store has opened in Park Street, and is only open for six weeks until Christmas Eve.

The shop is just across from Poundland, and shoppers are more than happy with the bargains on offer.

Hetty Jackson, aged 77, from Willenhall, said: "We want bargains, we do not want to be spending a lot of money on designer things so it is very good to have the shop here."

Jack Mills, 73, of West Bromwich, said: "I would rather see it filled with something like this than see it empty."

Bin chaos after depot fire

RESIDENTS in Walsall face bin collection chaos for at least another month after a blaze at the borough's main waste depot.

Residents have had to put up with delayed weekly collections since the fire at the Fryers Road Household Waste Recycling Centre in Bloxwich.

Council bosses say households can expect another four weeks of disruption as the depot is repaired. It was feared it may have to be demolished.

Walsall Council Clean and green chief Councillor Christopher Jones said: "The fire has directly contributed to missed collections. Everything is centred around Fryers Road. I would just say to residents bear with us if your collection is missed."

The cause of the November 5 fire has been confirmed as accidental. Councillor Jones added: "We are

hoping that within four weeks it could be up and running again. Our biggest fear was that the place had to be knocked down. I understand we can refurbish it, but it has to be refurbished up to modern standards."

The council is unable to use the site to deposit bin collections. Instead household rubbish is being shuttled to Veolia's site in Four Ashes while recyclables are being transported to Greenstar Environmental in Aldridge.



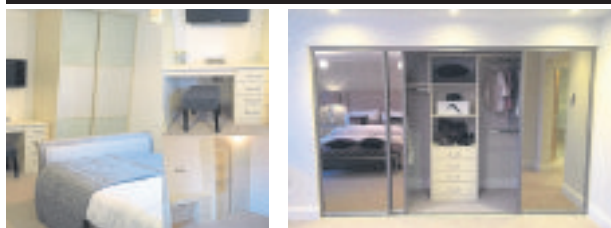
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Mayor backs scheme to help the homeless

A SCHEME that would see council homes given up to rough-sleeping drug addicts will prove to be 'a good investment', according to the West Midlands Mayor Andy Street.

He wants the region to be the national pilot scheme for Housing First, an initiative that gives free accommodation to people who live on the streets in a bid to help them rebuild their lives.

The scheme, which the Government will pay £15 million to fund over three years, requires local authorities in the Black Country to give up housing stock.

Mr Street said: "The issue is having the money to secure the places in accommodation that I think we could make available across the West Midlands.

"But what we are applying for is the funding to actually then pay for that accommodation.

Shared

"That's why we have put our application into Government to be the pilot in the UK of this scheme."

Mr Street said the scheme was unlikely to use individual council houses and would instead 'be looking at shared accommodation in blocks of apartments'.

When he was elected Mayor in May, Conservative Mr Street pledged to make tackling homelessness his top priority.

"We've got to make it appropriate so that it meets the issues we have here," he said. "But I think we should try and develop it to be a success."

In 2016 in Wolverhampton more than 8,300 people were on the waiting list for just 69 available council homes across the city. In Sandwell the waiting list was around 6,000 and in Walsall it was 8,600.

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Sitter Susan Lees with 16-week-old Quaver

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They are guide dogs in training, and more puppy sitters are needed to help them during their first year.

During that time, the dogs go out to "puppy walkers" who raise them as normal puppies and take them to classes to give them basic training

before handing them over for the next stage of their development.

Andrew Farrell, community engagement officer for guide dogs in Shropshire, Staffordshire and the Black Country, said: "We need to train more dogs which we can't do without the puppy walkers."

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Amy cuts in with kind gesture for sufferers



Amy Patel, with some of the hair she had cut off during Children In Need, to help children suffering from hair loss

A KIND-HEARTED Walsall schoolgirl has raised more than £500 for charity after cutting off more than 16 inches of her hair. Amy Patel, from Tipton, had the chop last Friday by Becky Austin, from Clippers Hair Salon, in Wednesbury. Her hair will now be donated to The Little Princess Trust, which provide wigs for children suffering from hair loss.

The 11-year-old, who attends Queen Mary's High School, in Walsall, also took part in the cut for Children in Need.

Proud parents Anita and Ashok Patel said: "Amy had previously donated more than eight inches of hair when she was just eight years old. She vowed to repeat it again after feeling proud and inspired at the sense of helping other children. In addition to raising the money, Amy donates her hair to Little Princess Trust who make wigs for children who have lost their hair during cancer treatment. We are both so proud of her achievements."

Jobless rate falls once more across the region

UNEMPLOYMENT continued to fall in the West Midlands in the three months to September with 8,000 fewer out of work.

The 155,000 registered as unemployed represents a regional jobless rate of 5.5 per cent – the joint highest in the UK – and the employment rate of 72.4 per cent is the second lowest in the country.

Nationally unemployment was down by 59,000 to 1.4 million, the lowest figure in more than 12 years with a rate of 4.3 per cent, the latest Office for National Statistics figures revealed.

The number in work fell by 14,000 – the biggest drop in more than two years – to just over 32 million.

Benefits

Nationally the claimant count, those claiming unemployment-related benefits, increased by 1,100 to 806,100 last month. For the West Midlands it was down 1,295 to 84,620 or 2.3 per cent of the working population. The biggest falls in the region were of 115 in both Wolverhampton and Sandwell. Wolverhampton's total stood at 8,605 (4.1 per

By John Corser

cent) and Sandwell was 6,950 (3.4 per cent).

There was a fall of 110 in Walsall to 4,775 (2.8 per cent), but Dudley saw a rise of 95 to 5,975 (3.1 per cent).

Employment minister Damian Hinds said: "The strength of the economy is driving an increase in full-time, permanent jobs and a near-record number of people are now in work thanks to the Government's welfare reforms."

"When unemployment fell to five per cent, many people thought it couldn't get much lower, and yet it now stands at 4.3 per cent. Everyone should be given the opportunity to find work and enjoy the stability of a regular pay packet."



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Restaurant held in high Regards by customers

STAFF are celebrating after being named the best in regards to Indian restaurants in the Walsall area.

Regards in Aldridge came out tops in the competition run by The Chronicle's sister publication The Express & Star.

Boss Jay Hussain said the restaurant, which has been open for 12 years, prides itself on knowing its clientele – who are like a family.

He said: "It feels very good, we're very happy we have won and our customers are very happy as well."

"This is the first award we have won – obviously the food is good and customers are very happy as long as the service is good."

"We have an offer on in the week so a lot of customers come for that. We have been here a long time and we pretty much know everybody."

Charities

"To be honest I enjoy working here. We get along with staff, it's like a family – it's a lovely clientele."

As well as donating to charities, Mr Hussain and the team at the 100-seat restaurant have also been supporting the Walsall Phoenix football team for the last three years.

Kirans Balti, from Church Street, Darlaston, was placed second.

The restaurant has been operating for a decade and team of six caters to their loyal customer base – with many reportedly travelling miles for their special 'spicy chips'.

Manager Ruhul (Sully) Ahmed, aged 42, said: "We do curry-filled samosas and have spicy curry chips which are very famous."

"You can't kind find it anywhere else – that's our own thing, people will travel far to have that. We have got



Mustakar Rahman, Regards manager Badrul Hussain and chef Sheikh Alta



Manager Ruhul Ahmed and staff at runners-up Kirans Balti, Darlaston

a loyal customer base. We would just like to give thanks to all of the customers who have supported us."

Mr Ahmed said: "We do curry-filled samosas and have spicy curry chips which are very famous."

"You can't kind find it anywhere else – that's our own thing, people will travel far to have that. We would just like to give thanks to all of the custom-

ers who have supported us – it's business as usual for us."

Jewel Balti in New Road, Willenhall, came third in the competition.

Andy Maxwell, Express & Star circulation sales manager, said: "I would like to congratulate all the five edition area winners firstly for taking part but more importantly for coming out on top."

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Court date over town hall brawl

A MAN has appeared in court in connection with a brawl at Walsall Town Hall, during which a teenager was murdered.

Trouble flared at a boxing event on October 14. Nineteen-year-old Reagan Asbury from Pelsall was fatally stabbed.

Phillip Smith, aged 51, of Harrison Street, Bloxwich, was arrested and charged with violent disorder. Walsall Magistrates Court heard he was not directly involved in Mr Asbury's death.

Smith appeared only to confirm his name and address but offered no plea. The case was committed to Wolverhampton Crown Court on November 30.

Prosecutor Alka Brigue said: "It ultimately resulted in a murder, although it is not suggested this defendant was responsible."

Tickets fraudster to pay back £10,000

A LAW student who flogged fake gig tickets to dupe people out of almost £10,000 has walked from court with a suspended sentence.

But would-be England sports-woman Zainab Pervaiz – who cheated Justin Bieber, Beyoncé and Adele fans of their cash – must pay it all back.

The Walsall fraudster fooled at least 16 unsuspecting pop fans into buying the non-existent tickets on eBay.

She previously trained at the England football camp, played for her local cricket team and lost her job as a paralegal at Fountain Solicitors after bosses discovered she had been ripping-off victims.

Sentencing at Birmingham Crown Court, Judge Simon Drew said: "That



Zainab Pervaiz

was £10,000 not raised in order for you to survive but essentially, for you to enjoy certain luxuries in your life.

"You have come within a whisker of an immediate, substantial, sentence

of imprisonment." Pervaiz launched her con after befriending a woman suffering from post traumatic stress disorder. The defendant, of Swan Pool Grove, later 'manipulated' the woman's grandfather to allow her to use his PayPal account.

She conned customers into transferring cash for fake tickets, advertised on eBay, into his account before moving cash into hers.

Complained

Unhappy customers complained when tickets failed to arrive, alerting her 'vulnerable' friend and grandfather – who was forced to fork out £7,000 to refund Pervaiz' victims.

Pervaiz, who admitted 16 counts of fraud by false representation, was handed a two-year sentence, suspended for two years. She must pay £9,982 compensation.

Warehouse to bring jobs boost



The shell of the warehouse under construction in Airfield Drive

WORK is under way on a warehouse which, once up and running, will bring 90 jobs.

The structure is beginning to take shape on a business park in Airfield Drive, Aldridge. Work is due to finish in April but no occupier has yet been found.

Wolverhampton company Kay Properties Midlands submitted the plans and the scheme was given the go-ahead by Walsall

Council earlier this year. Aldridge Central and South ward councillor John Murray said he believes the site will boost employment prospects when finished.

He said: "We are extremely pleased that the construction is taking place.

"It is good to see the already extremely low unemployment rate in Aldridge-Brown-hills will be improved further."

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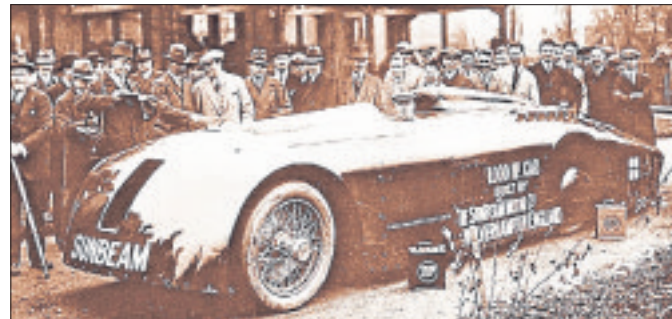
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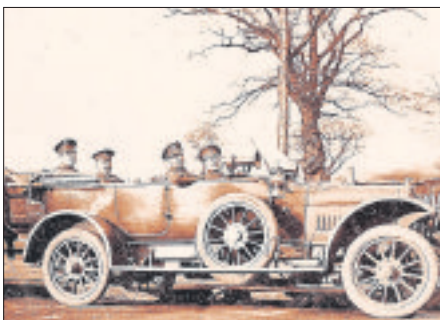
The Sunbeam Silver Bullet which made an unsuccessful land-speed bid in 1930



A Sunbeam 12-16hp parked up for a picnic, circa 1913



The world record-breaking 1000hp Sunbeam which reached 203 mph in 1927



16-hp Sunbeam staff car during the First World War



An aerial view of Sunbeam pre-World War One

Photo album sheds new light on Sunbeam story

A PHOTO album snapped up at auction has sent ripples of excitement through the small but devoted community of Sunbeam motor car enthusiasts.

The piece of transport history contains photographs and information about every item – from cars to wheel nuts – produced at the Wolverhampton-based Sunbeam factory between 1931-33.

Sunbeam, one of the great names in British car manufacturing, employed 4,500 people at the height of its success in the 1920s. But despite its reputation for quality cars, it fell into financial difficulties and production was stopped in 1935. Rootes took over but many precious records were subsequently lost or thrown out.

Much work has been done by fans of the iconic brand, who launched the Sunbeam Talbot Darracq (STD) Register in 1950 for owners and supporters,

MEMORY LANE

By Marion Brennan

to preserve documents, drawings and other data relating to the car. They are thrilled by this latest discovery.

Ben Yates, archivist of the STD Register, said: "The album is an important find. We've never had a full record for any period of production so this is really quite special. It's an official company reference volume – we never even knew of the existence of Sunbeam's own listings.

Continuous

"We have other albums of photos produced by various companies but not a continuous record of production over more than two years, showing not only all the company's products but the works, state-of-the-art machines and people working them."

The group paid almost £1,000 for the album at a recent auction by Cuttlestones in Wolverhampton. It was

previously owned by a local man, now 72, whose grandfather worked at Sunbeam, thought to be as a toolmaker.

His father also worked for the company, joining directly from school, and towards the end of its existence was based in the bus section. He then transferred to Guy Motors, who bought the Sunbeam Trolleybus Company in 1949.

According to the vendor, who does not wish to be named, his father 'rescued' the album in 1935 when Sunbeam went into liquidation as the volume, along with the majority of company records were simply being thrown out.

Mr Yates said: "This is a story we have heard from many former Sunbeam employees, particularly at the Wolverhampton rallies the STD organised from the 1950s until the Centenary Rally in 1999. There are, apparently, no longer any surviving employees."

Realising its importance, and with no descendants to pass the album on to, the vendor offered it for sale.



Sunbeam 16-20hp belonged to an Indian prince



How former Sunbeam factory used to look

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Oh brother!
Twigs were
hot to trot

The Lemon Twigs/Flyte, O2 Institute 2, Birmingham LONDON band Flyte, who've already played Wolverhampton and Birmingham venues in their own right this year, only had a half hour support slot in which to impress, and impress they did with carefully crafted pop songs from their hugely promising debut album *The Loved Ones*.

They have a fine voiced frontman in Will Taylor, though all four play a part vocally with Fleet Foxes-like close harmonies showcased by their a capella version of Alvvays' *Archie*, Marry Me. Highlights included the singles *Victoria Falls* and *Cathy Come Home* plus '80s flavoured *Sliding Doors*.

The Lemon Twigs, a New York quartet based around brothers Brian and Michael D'Addario, former Broadway stage kids, are brash, bizarre and brilliant.

Their music is a theatrical take on '70s rock. The first half was fronted by long-haired Brian, a slick and confident singer/guitarist whilst brother Michael bashed the hell out of the drum kit like a latter day Keith Moon. Midway through the 70 minute set, siblings swap places and it becomes apparent that Michael is an unabashed showman akin to Iggy Pop, high kicking and turkey trotting around the stage, climbing and leaping off the speakers. Highlights included *These Words* and *Why Didn't You Say That?*

LEON BURAKOWSKI



Blondie's Debbie Harry on stage at the Birmingham Arena.

Pic: Aden Southall

Bee in her bonnet, but
Blondie fans in Rapture

CONCERT REVIEWS

Blondie, Arena Birmingham

NEVER one to be low key she appeared on stage wearing a white cape with the F word on the back – relating to the planet – and two large furry bees in her hair – not real I hasten to add.

This was Debbie Harry's stand for the bee population, very appropriate as her latest album is called *Pollinator*. Well Blondie certainly did get the crowd buzzing from the off.

There was no point in settling into our seats as the packed Arena was on its feet as soon as she appeared on stage, and for nearly two hours she took us through her old and new hits.

Kicking off with *One Way Or Another* she soon invited the audience to sing along, a little bit too often for my liking as she just kept holding out the mic to the fans. Fine, but I had gone there to hear her sing not them.

At the age of 72, and dressed very simply in a white shirt and trousers and a sort of black tie/scarf there was still a glimpse of

those fabulous cheekbones. Ruffling up her hair frequently – very blonde of course – she soon dispensed with her dark glasses and paid attention to her favourite fan, the electric one on the floor in front of her which she fiddled with.

I am not sure if she was too warm or just liked the breeze in her hair for the wind-swept look.

Her voice was a bit shaky at first but got stronger as the night went on and the fans – of all ages, many not even a twinkle in the eye when she was at her height of fame, lapped it up.

Alongside the newer songs she turned the clock back with *Dreaming*, *Call Me*, *Union City Blue* and many more. A great night. Thanks for the memories, Debbie. She will probably still be Atomic at 80.

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The Sixth Form taking you places

19

The Chronicle Thursday, November 23, 2017

Commercial feature

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College Sixth Form is a caring community in which students, staff and parents are committed to working together in partnership to successfully support your learning journey whatever your destination!

A school spokesperson said: "Our ethos is distinctive; we are a school you can put your faith in."

"Our sixth form is inclusive and welcomes students who will support our community-centred ethos. We have a long tradition of fundraising for charities and supporting community initiatives alongside the pursuit of academic excellence."

In February, Ofsted commented: "Leaders, other staff and pupils work together to create a calm, purposeful and hardworking atmosphere."

Proud

The spokesperson added: "We are really proud of the destinations of our students."

"This year 40 per cent of our students who successfully applied for university secured places at Russell Group universities and other selective universities including Balliol College, Oxford, and the London School of Economics. 15 per cent of applicants received unconditional offers from their chosen universities."

Popular places chosen by students this year included the University of Leeds, University of Manchester, University of Nottingham, University of Birmingham, University of Liverpool, University of Leicester, Aston University and Keele University.

Popular courses selected by students this year included law, psychology, education/teaching, engineering, medicine, sciences, nursing/health, media, English Literature and modern foreign languages.

"We are enjoying a rise in examination



Leaders, other staff and pupils work together to create a calm, purposeful and hardworking atmosphere

success post 16 with 22 per cent of A-level and equivalent results being A* or A. 42 per cent of A-level and equivalent results were A* to B, 75 per cent of A-level and equivalent results were A*-C.

"Our Applied Learning courses saw 65 per cent of students attain Distinction* and 92 per cent of Applied Learning results were Distinction* or Distinction."

"If you are ambitious and aspire to explore opportunities leading to higher education, apprenticeships or employment, then we could be the place for you."

Ofsted - February 2017 stated: "Teachers and leaders at all levels are enthusiastic and ambitious."

This is seen in the school's approach to traditional subjects such as history, geography,

English Literature, religious studies, French, German, science and maths as well as in our philosophy behind popular subjects such as psychology, law, sociology, media studies, photography and design engineering offered only in the sixth form.

The spokesperson added: "We have increased the number of subjects on offer for September 2018 to include further maths,

criminology and food science and nutrition."

"We invite you to join us at our Post-16 Information Evening on Wednesday, November 29 from 7pm until 9pm. Come and discover the full range of 29 A-Level/Level 3 courses on offer for entry in September 2018. Come and listen to staff and students enthuse about their subjects. See where studying at St Francis of Assisi CTC could take you!"



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Pupils inspired to be their very best

Commercial feature

Landywood Primary School is going from strength to strength with "a culture of high expectations providing a good education" – Ofsted 2017.

The chair of Landywood's School Council, eleven-year-old Oliver, stated: "Landywood has improved so much because of the excellent teachers."

More and more children are coming to Landywood because learning is fun and it inspires pupils to be their very best."

In February 2017, Ofsted graded Landywood 'Good' in all areas.

In July 2017, Landywood achieved its best ever Year 6 SATS results – 85 per cent of pupils achieving the national expectation in reading, writing and maths.

Landywood's younger children also achieved exceptional results: 91 per cent of Year 1 pupils achieved the national expected phonics threshold; the Early Years pupils achieved higher than the national average, making the school one of the top performing Early Years provisions in Staffordshire.

Enjoy

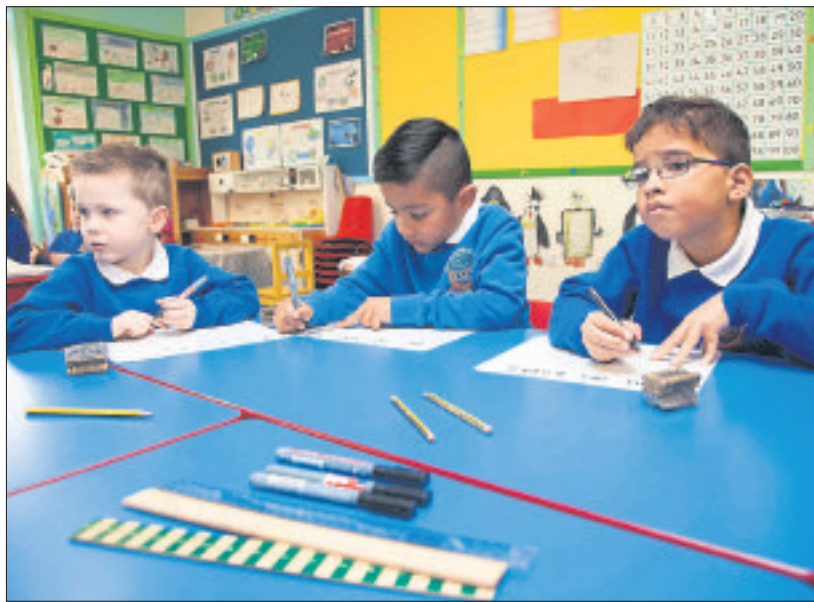
Landywood has a new leadership team, and the changes that have taken place over the past 12 months at the school are showing a real impact.

The school's new Creative Curriculum has English and maths at its core, with experiential learning a focus during afternoons and during the school's Foundation Fridays.

Ofsted stated: "Pupils enjoy the opportunities the school offers and are positive about learning."

The breadth of the curriculum is a feature of the school.

Pupils participate in an on-site Forest Schools programme, making use of the school's extensive grounds, under the guidance and



Changes that have taken place over the past 12 months at the school are showing a real impact

expertise of the school's own qualified Forest School teacher.

Every child from the age of seven is provided with a musical instrument and, through weekly lessons, taught by qualified musical experts in preparation for the school's summer musical extravaganza.

Landywood has built its reputation on nurturing the whole child, and the wellbeing of the children was complimented by Ofsted.

Ninety nine per cent of parents stated their

child feels safe and happy at the school. A full residential programme from Years 2 to 6 develops pupils' resilience, team work and independence.

Strength

Landywood prides itself on being a healthy school, where last year over 70 per cent of children aged seven-plus participated in at least one hour of subsidised extra-curricular clubs, including karate, dance, tri-golf and

football. The on-site school catering team provide outstanding, nutritionally balanced meals, made from a selection of locally sourced ingredients.

The Early Years team at the school was identified by Ofsted as a real strength, and the integrated provision enables children from the age of three to participate in challenging, engaging, fun learning. Landywood now offers up to 30 hours free nursery places and also enables parents to purchase additional hours

where required. Through the school's before and after school club, Treehouse Club, children from the age of three are able to arrive at school from 7.45am each morning and stay until 5.45pm each evening.

If you are currently choosing your child's reception or nursery place, the school warmly invites you to visit the school and see for yourself what the school has to offer.

Places are also available in other year groups. Please contact the school on 01922 270077.



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Striker claimed £14,000 in benefits Footballer pays penalty for disability deception

THE final whistle has blown on a footballing fraudster who netted more than £14,000 in disability benefits while banging in the goals on a Sunday morning.

Gary Wilson was a prolific striker and appeared to be a picture of perfect health, with a goalscoring record to prove it.

The 30-year-old was once apparently on the books of Newcastle United. But while he was repeatedly hitting the back of the net at the weekend, he had told benefit officials he needed help to put on his shoes and socks and had difficulty getting out of bed or into the bath without assistance.

Struggled

Father of four Wilson, of St Chad's Road, Bilston had told the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) he needed 'physical support' after just a few minutes on his feet. But investigators finally caught up with him at a Wolverhampton Sunday League fixture.

Wilson was filmed via undercover camera shooting from distance and making tackles without any show of discomfort for Steelman's Lounge FC. Statistics on the website of another Sunday League club he played for in the 2014/15 season - Willenhall side Loft FC - show Wilson hit the back of the net 26 times.

At Walsall Magistrates Court last month, Wilson admitted illegally claiming Disability Living Allowance from November 2012 to May last year by failing to reveal his capabilities had



Wilson playing Sunday football



Gary Wilson, aged 30, outside court

improved. He also admitted illegally claiming around £500 worth of Employment and Support Allowance by not declaring he was working between January 2 and February 22, 2013.

Wilson was sentenced to 18 weeks in jail, suspended for two years. He must pay £135 costs and a £115 surcharge and carry out a 20-day rehabilitation

activity requirement. He will also be subject to a three-month curfew, from 8pm to 6am.

Defending, Miss Seema Kapoor, said Wilson had a history of physical problems dating back to 2012 and, while he still suffered numerous ailments, he no longer met the threshold for disability payments.

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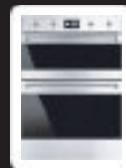
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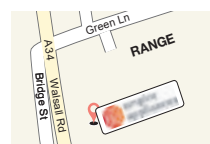
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The Chronicle Thursday, November 23, 2017

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Why Anton's in the mood for singing

We start with a moment described perfectly accurately and unlassciviously on YouTube as this: Ruth Langford rides Anton

Du Beke.

For those just back from a long holiday in Outer Mongolia, we'll recap. At the start of the month, Strictly's Anton Du Beke unexpectedly found himself pinned to the ground beneath the beautiful, perfectly-manicured Singapore-born presenter. And then she sort of wriggled a bit. And shimmied. Jeez.

Anton laughs. No doubt he's recounted that moment dozens of times, but he's game again this morning. Was he horrified when the two of them went down?

He laughs again. "No, I told Ruth it had been her best move."

There's a pause. Then we both laugh.

"It was one of those things. It was not her fault. Everything goes into slow motion when things like that happen."

"You think: 'I've got this, I'll just adjust.' Then it's 'Jesus, I don't think I've got this. And you wait for the ground to arrive at your back side.'"

Anton thought it was a hoot when it happened – and still does.

"It was hilarious. It was one of the funniest moments ever on strictly. The crowd went mad."

We have more to talk about, however, like Anton's forthcoming tour and his decision to try to emulate his Rat Pack heroes like Frank and Sammy D.

Anton, TV's most sartorial man, is The Entertainer. And in addition to tripping the light fantastic on Strictly, he's been recording a debut album in the studio, From The Top.

PASSION

"I'm so excited to announce my debut album. It's been a passion project of mine for years to be able to do something like this."

"I hope people enjoy it. I've loved every second of it. There's some old songs. Some new songs. And definitely some songs you can dance to."

It features classics like Putting On The Ritz, Fly Me To The Moon, Don't Rain On My Parade and It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year.

It's something he'd wanted to do forever, but took a while to bring together.

"I'm never quite sure how one gets from Point A to Point B sometimes. The same was true when I was watching Fred Astaire when I was young, I wanted to be like him but I wasn't sure of the path from a Church Hall in Kent to becoming Fred Astaire. And with music, I've never been sure how to get from the shower to singing Fly Me To The Moon in a studio with a great producer."

Anton worked on the record with Polydor and he was delighted with their support.

"You just want someone to say to you: 'Listen, it's great, keep going.' You get self conscious and you don't really know whether it's any good. But it's been a wonderful experience."

"It's the music of my life. It's music I loved growing up with and music I danced to. Being able to sing it and get others dancing is the greatest joy."

Anton grew up watching the greats. He was enchanted by Sammy Davis Jr, Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra as well as the wonderful arrangements by Nelson Riddle and Quincy Jones. He worked with a 36-piece orchestra on his album

Best moves – Anton with Strictly dance partner Ruth Langford



to create new arrangements and the results are plain to see.

Anton is habitually tied up during the run-in to Christmas, what, with Strictly an all. But he'll be road testing some of the songs when he tours the UK from January to March.

"I'll be back on tour after the new year and I'll be coming back to the Symphony Hall in Birmingham – I do love that venue. I'll be dancing and singing, as I normally do. But if anybody's been to see me on tour, they know I sing a bit both on Strictly and on my own tours."

"I keep saying this, I don't want it to sound odd, but the sound of the album is incredible. It's such a brilliant sound they put together in the studio."

The team who worked with Anton to produce his album blew him away. They were simultaneously supportive and honest, scrutinising everything he did to make sure he reached his potential. "I worked with a guy called Brian Rawlings, who has worked with the greats. He's done projects with Andrea Boccelli, Cher, everyone. When I went to the studio, the walls were lined with platinum discs."

It was one of the funniest moments ever on Strictly. The crowd went mad

So does Anton want to follow in those footsteps? Does he want to be lining his own walls with a bunch of silver, gold and platinum discs? You can bet he does.

"I hope it goes absolutely massive, I hope I get a platinum disc and people say it's incredible. But we'll have to wait and see whether that actually happens, we'll have to wait and see. I love it so much that I want other people to love it."

"This type of big band music is still being done and has stood the test of time. We'll have to wait and see in the future what still gets repeated in the same way from today's era. The songs I've re-recorded are great in their own right. The hard bit for me was choosing what to leave out."

In the final analysis, making people happy is what The Entertainer is all about. And he plans to keep dancing for as long as possible. "For now, I still love dancing. Doing the paso doble and samba and ripping my trousers off – I live for those moments. Or dancing with Nadiya and doing a beautiful foxtrot while Seal is singing: those are the moments you live for."

Andy Richardson

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

Festive favourite The Nutcracker



Christmas cracker of a ballet is a traditional treat

Birmingham Royal Ballet's annual festive treat, The Nutcracker, opens at Birmingham Hippodrome tomorrow night (Friday).

Sir Peter Wright's magical production runs until December 13 and has been an annual seasonal tradition since the company moved from London and took on the city's name more than 25 years ago.

This world-acclaimed production with its classic story of an incredible Christmas journey, features glorious dancing and instantly recognisable romantic music from Tchaikovsky.

Join Clara as she is swept into an enchanting winter wonderland of whirling snowflakes, a handsome prince, wicked rats and a Sugar Plum Fairy.

It is spectacular with lavish costumes and

monumental sets, and amazing effects including a Christmas tree that grows before your eyes and Clara's flight on the back of a swan to a magical land.

The Nutcracker has captured the hearts and imaginations of generations of theatregoers, becoming an annual fixture at the Hippodrome, which is Birmingham Royal Ballet's home theatre. In fact, Christmas in Birmingham just wouldn't be the same without it.

In this most festive of ballets 60 dancers and a full orchestra – the Royal Ballet Sinfonia – combine to make the perfect Christmas treat for the entire family.

This production with exquisite designs by John Macfarlane is acclaimed as one of the best in the world.

Grease is still the one that you want



Grease is the word at Wolverhampton Grand where the latest tour of the much-loved rock 'n' roll musical arrives on Monday and will run until Saturday, December 2.

Tom Parker, pictured, formerly of boy band The Wanted, is making make his musical theatre debut as Danny Zuko, the role made famous in the movie by the young John Travolta.

Danielle Hope, who was Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz at the London Palladium after winning BBC TV's Over The Rainbow, will step into Olivia Newton-John's high heel shoes as Sandy.

Wisecracking Rizzo will be played by EastEnders and The Bill star Louisa Lytton, one of the youngest Strictly Come Dancing competitors in 2006. George Olney is Teen Angel/Vince Fontaine.

Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's musical, set in an American high

school during the rock 'n' roll era, features such songs as You're The One That I Want, Summer Nights, Greased Lightnin' and Hopelessly Devoted To You. It has been choreographed by Arlene Phillips and directed by David Gilmore, who was also at the helm for stage versions of Happy Days and Footloose.

This production opened in the West End, where it had a six year run, and has toured ever since.

It's a Cruella winter at the Rep

Birmingham Rep is set for a paw-some festive season with The Hundred and One Dalmatians on stage from Thursday (November 30) to January 13. Debbie Isitt (Nativity!) adapts the family favourite story by Dodie Smith, which was

turned into an animated classic by Disney. It is brought to life on stage with puppetry devised by director Tessa Walker and designer Jamie Vartan. Former Birmingham student Gloria Onitiri, above, makes her Rep debut as wicked Cruella de Vil.



Rag'N'Bone Man is only Human at Civic

One of the breakout stars of 2017, Rag'N'Bone Man, has sold out the Civic Hall on Monday for his first Wolverhampton gig. Without doubt 2017 has been his year, emerging from the Brighton music scene, his debut album has been a huge hit worldwide, containing the international hit Human, which went to Number 1 on iTunes in more than 40 countries. The harmonious sound of America folk-rockers Fleet Foxes can be heard at the Civic tomorrow night (Friday), whilst punk veterans Sham 69 are at the Slade Rooms. There's a sell-out again at the venue on Saturday for former leading members of The Beautiful South, Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott. Highlights at the Robin 2 in Bilston include '80s duo China Crisis on Sunday and former Zombies frontman Colin Blunstone on Monday.

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CHOICE



Joe Orton

Joe Orton Laid Bare (BBC2, 9pm)

Documentary exploring the wit, work and world of Joe Orton, the Leicester-born playwright and author whose flourishing literary career was cut short when he was killed by his boyfriend Kenneth Halliwell in 1967. Fifty years after his demise, this film charts Orton's meteoric rise to fame following his imprisonment in 1962 for defacing library books. Orton believed his sentence was unduly harsh, and had more to do with the fact he was homosexual than the crime itself, but his time in prison allowed him to crystallise his distinctive worldview. Here, excerpts from his stage and TV plays, along with his personal diaries, outline his outrageous perspective, and the circumstances of his death are re-examined.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nigella: At My Table. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Rugby League World Cup. **2.00** Live International Rugby Union. Scotland v Australia (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** Len Goodman's Partners in Rhyme. **5.45** BBC News. **5.55** Regional Programme.

6.00 **Pointless Celebrities.** Simon Wood, Jane Devonshire, Lee McQueen, Yasmina Siadatan, Sam Bailey, Michelle McManus, George Sampson and Jermaine Jackson take part in a "TV Winner" edition of the quiz show.

6.50 **Strictly Come Dancing.** The seven remaining pro-celebrity duos return to the Elstree studio, in the wake of their expedition to the Lancashire coast last weekend for the annual Blackpool Tower special. The competition will be no less intense on coming back to familiar territory, though, as the celebrities and their seasoned dancing partners draw closer to the grand final. Judges Shirley Ballas, Bruno Tonioli, Darcie Bussell and Craig Revel Horwood are on hand to assess each pairing's skills as they all tackle the Paso Doble at the same time in a "Pasodoblation". As ever, though, the impressing the judges is only half of the battle, as the stars must also gain the approval of the viewing public, who are given a chance to have their say over who should stay in the running.

8.10 **Michael McIntyre's Big Show.** EastEnders star Danny Dyer hands over his phone in Celebrity Sent to All, and Gary Barlow puts in a special appearance. Plus, performances by Russell Kane and Clean Bandit.

9.10 **Casualty.** Connie attends her first day of chemotherapy, and when Ethan tries to take the lead in her absence, his overly thorough approach causes massive delays.

10.00 **BBC News:** Weather; National Lottery Update.

10.20 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, which included Liverpool v Chelsea, and Tottenham Hotspur v West Bromwich Albion.

11.45 **The NFL Show.**

12.15 **Film: Obsessed.** (2009) **2.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.05** BBC News.

BBC2

7.30 Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. **8.00** Deadly 60. (R) **8.30** Show Me What You're Made Of: UK. **9.00** Saturday Mash-Up! **11.00** Natural World: Climps of the Lost Gorge. (R) **12.00** Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes. (R) **12.30** Raymond Blanc: How to Cook Well. (R) **1.00** Coast. (R) **1.20** Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers: Talking Pictures. (R) **2.10** **Film: Daddy Long Legs.** (1955) Romantic musical, starring Fred Astaire and Leslie Caron. **4.15** Britain Afloat. **4.45** Live International Rugby Union. Wales v New Zealand (Kick-off 5.15pm).

7.30 **International Rugby Union.** England v Samoa. Sara Orchard presents action from the autumn international at Twickenham, which saw England attempt to extend their unbeaten run against the Samoans.

8.30 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring camps the platoon in the middle of a firing range, forcing Corporal Jones to make a desperate effort to raise the alarm. (R)

9.00 **Joe Orton Laid Bare.** Documentary charting the rise to fame of playwright and author Joe Orton, whose literary career was cut short when he was killed by his boyfriend Kenneth Halliwell in 1967.

10.20 **QI XL.** Sally Phillips, Ross Noble and Nish Kumar join regular panellist Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig for an extended version of the comedy quiz show. This time, the topic is 'Odorous and Odious'. During the course of the show, the panellists learn why the world's second-smelliest man is so frustrated. As ever, correctness and even intelligence go out of the window, as the fiendishly difficult questions lead to points being awarded for the answers its questionmaster finds most interesting, as opposed to correct.

11.05 **Insert Name Here.** Nish Kumar, Kate Williams, Katherine Ryan and Gabby Logan join host Sue Perkins and captains Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe as the comedy quiz returns. (R)

11.35 **Film: Albert Nobbs.** (2011) A woman living in disguise as a man in 19th-century Ireland decides to find a wife after a meeting with a fellow cross-dresser. Drama, with Glenn Close and Mia Wasikowska.

1.20 **Film: Chances Are.** (1989) **3.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Mission Employme. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Ultimate Spider-Man: Web Warriors. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Fangbone. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **4.25** The Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Saturday Morning with James Martin. **11.25** Gino's Italian Coastal Escape. (R) **11.50** ITV News: Weather. **12.00** The X Factor. (R) **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Haydock. Coverage of this afternoon's meetings at Haydock Park and Ascot. **4.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **4.25** The Harbour. (R) **4.55** The Chase. (R) **5.55** New You've Been Framed!

6.20 **Regional Programme:** Weather.

6.25 **ITV News:** Weather.

6.35 **Ninja Warrior UK.** Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara host the final heat, as competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in the obstacle-course challenge. (R)

7.30 **The X Factor: The Semi Finals.** The conclusion of the musical talent show creeps ever closer, as the contest reaches the semi-finals. Throughout the live stages, surprise double eliminations, extra sing-offs and an increased number of public votes have tested not only the contestants' singing skills, but also their ability to master their nerves, and the pressure is bound to be higher than ever with the Grand Final taking place next weekend. Dermot O'Leary welcomes the performers back to the stage for another set, as Cowell and his fellow judges – Louis Walsh, Nicole Scherzinger and Sharon Osbourne – deliver their verdicts, before giving viewers at home a chance to have their say.

9.10 **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!** Ant and Dec catch up with the celebrity castaways as their first week in the camp draws to a close, and they prepare for a Bush Tucker Trial.

10.10 **ITV News:** Weather.

10.30 **Film: Rambo: First Blood Part II.** (1985) Action adventure sequel, with Sylvester Stallone.

12.20 **Jackpot247.** **3.00** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.55** Frasier. (R) **7.20** Frasier. (R) **7.45** The Big Bang Theory. **8.10** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **8.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.00** The Simpsons. (R) **9.25** The Simpsons. (R) **9.55** Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Practice 3 Live. The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. **11.25** F1 Meets Niki Lauda. **11.55** Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Qualifying Live. The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. **2.45** World's Most Expensive Cars. (R) **3.45** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.30** Best Laid Plans. **5.30** Grand Designs. (R)

6.25 **Channel 4 News.**

6.45 **Film: The Day After Tomorrow.** (2004) A climatologist warns global warming will soon result in destructive freak weather, or even another ice age. He thinks the world still has time to prepare for the worst, but the crisis happens almost immediately – and as storms, earthquakes and hurricanes strike in terrifying fashion, he races across America to rescue his son from a frozen New York. Disaster thriller, with Jake Gyllenhaal and Dennis Quaid. **9.00** **Film: Ex Machina.** (2015) Premiere. A computer programmer working for the world's biggest search engine is given the opportunity to spend a week at the remote home of his boss, a hi-tech genius. The break turns out to be an elaborate experiment, in which he must test the world's first truly artificial intelligence, which is housed in the body of a beautiful robot girl. Sci-fi drama, starring Domhnall Gleeson, Alicia Vikander and Oscar Isaac.

11.05 **Film: Lone Survivor.** (2013) Four soldiers face a battle for survival while on a mission to eliminate a terrorist leader in Afghanistan. Fact-based drama, starring Mark Wahlberg and Taylor Kitsch.

1.15 The Last Leg. American comedian Margaret Cho joins the regulars. (R) **2.10** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Louis and Leela are frantic when baby Daniel goes missing. **4.20** Location, Location, Location. Phil Spencer helps a couple searching for a home in south-west London. (R) **5.15** Draw It! (R) **5.40** **Film: The Parent Trap.** (1961) Twin sisters who want their estranged parents to get back together swap places in a play to reunite them. Disney comedy, with Hayley Mills in a dual role alongside Maureen O'Hara.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.25** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **11.55** **Film: A Christmas Reunion.** (2015) **1.40** **Film: Santa Who?** (2000) Family comedy, starring Leslie Nielsen. **3.25** **Film: Angels in the Snow.** (2015) Family drama, starring Kristy Swanson. **4.25** 5 News Update. **4.30** **Film: Angels in the Snow.** (2015) Concluded. **5.15** **Film: Love You Like Christmas.** (2016) Premiere. Romantic drama, starring Bonnie Somerville and Brennan Elliott.

6.15 **5 News Update.**

6.20 **Film: Love You Like Christmas.** (2016) Concluded.

7.00 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** In Coventry, the sheriffs chase £10,000 owed by a publican to a contractor. The property appears to be empty, but after finding an ingenious method of entry, Matt and Garry are confronted by a surprised and angry landlord. Meanwhile, agents Max and Steve head to central London to try to recover almost £8,000 owed to a firm of accountants. (R)

8.00 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Agents try to recover almost £2,000 owed by the owner of a bridal shop in London, while officers in Kent chase over £4,000 of vet fees after two neighbouring dogs got into a fight. (R)

8.55 **5 News Weekend.**

9.00 **Football on 5: The Championship.** Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship, including Barnsley v Leeds United, Aston Villa v Ipswich Town and Burton Albion v Sunderland.

10.00 **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** Colin Murray introduces all the goals from Leagues One and Two, including AFC Wimbledon v Walsall, Blackburn Rovers v Bristol Rovers and Coventry City v Crawley Town.

10.30 **NCIS: New Orleans.** A sailor from Mississippi is murdered, and when it becomes clear the man was also a biker, the agents begin to suspect his death might be the result of an old gang rivalry.

11.25 **NCIS: New Orleans.** A petty officer is found dead, and the only witness to the crime is the woman's nine-year-old nephew.

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** When Calls the Heart. (R) **4.40** Access. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Nature's Misfits: Natural World **8.00** The Mekong River with Sue Perkins **9.00** Witnesses: A Frozen Death **10.50** The Vietnam War **11.50** What a Performance! Pioneers of Popular Entertainment **12.50** A Blackpool Big Band Boogie: Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra **1.50** Nature's Misfits: Natural World **2.50** The Mekong River with Sue Perkins **3.50** Close

ITV2

11.50 Take Me Out Celebrity Special **12.50** Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule **1.25** **Film: Beethoven's 2nd** (1993) **2.25** FYI Daily **2.30** **Film: Beethoven's 2nd** (1993) **3.10** **Film: Step Up** (2006) **4.15** FYI Daily **4.20** **Film: Step Up** (2006) **5.20** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **6.50** **Film: Inception** (2010) **7.50** FYI Daily **7.55** **Film: Inception** (2010) **9.40** Family Guy **10.10** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp **11.10** Family Guy **11.40** American Dad! **12.40** Release the Hounds **1.40** Viral Tap **2.20** Stately Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.10 FYI Daily **11.15** **Film: Murder on the Orient Express** (1974) **12.50** **Film: Columbo: Make Me a Perfect Murder** (1978) **2.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.00** Margery and Gladys **7.00** Midsomer Murders **11.05** The Syndicate **12.10** The Blonde Bombshell **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

12.45 Live Darts: Players Championship Finals. Coverage of day two from Butlins Minehead. **5.00** Nijinsky's Triple Crown **5.05** Pawn Stars **7.00** Live Darts: Players Championship Finals. Coverage of day two from Butlins Minehead. **11.00** **Film: Full Metal Jacket** (1987) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05** **Film: Full Metal Jacket** (1987) **1.20** The Classic Car Show **2.20** The Protectors **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.00 How I Met Your Mother **12.00** **Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel** (2009) **1.50** Rude (ish) Tube Shorts **2.00** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film: Oblivion** (2013) **11.30** Gogglebox **1.35** Rude Tube **2.35** First Dates **3.30** How I Met Your Mother **4.15** Rules of Engagement

Film4

11.00 Rio (2011) **1.00** Field of Dreams (1989) **3.20** Avatar (2009) **6.30** The Riot Club Interview Special **6.40** Ender's Game (2013) **9.00** 2 Guns (2013) **11.10** Tank 432 (2015) **12.55** Immortals (2011)

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CHOICE



Guy Martin

Guy Martin vs the Robocar (Channel 4, 9pm)
According to predictions, in just over 10 years' time, half of all new cars sold will be electric and 15 per cent of them will be self-driving. But where does that leave Guy Martin? In this documentary, he tries to get to grips with autonomous vehicles by building his own robotic Ford Transit in his shed, where he discovers that the hardest part is replicating human thought. So, he travels to Budapest and the US to learn more about artificial intelligence and the morality tests the software engineers must grapple with, such as should a self-driving car save its passenger or a pedestrian in an emergency scenario. And in the ultimate test, Guy takes to the track to become the first person to pit his driving skills against an AI race car.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Elizabeth & Philip: Love and Duty. (R) **2.15** Mary Berry's Country House Secrets. (R) **3.15** Songs of Praise. **3.55** Alan Shearer: Dementia, Football and Me. (R) **4.55** Blue Planet II. (R) **5.55** BBC News.
6.10 **Regional Programme.**
6.20 **Countryfile.** The team visits the Cairngorms, where Joe Crowley explores Britain's largest nature reserve and one of its highest mountains, and Helen Skelton goes in search of golden eagles. Plus, Adam Henson prepares for next year's new arrivals on his farm and Tom Heap reports on the British chicken industry.
7.20 **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkelman reveal the results of last night's viewers' vote and another couple leaves the contest. Featuring a performance from Kelly Clarkson.
8.00 **Blue Planet II.** Footage of wildlife inhabiting underwater kelp forests, including thousands of giant cuttlefish spawning along a restricted area of rocky reef off the south coast of Australia. Males outnumber females 11 to one, which leads to fierce competition. Larger males use brute force to drive off competition, while their smaller rivals use deception by mimicking the appearance of females. The programme also features tiger sharks hunting for green turtles in fields of seagrass and spider crabs trying to avoid predators while they shed their shells.
9.00 **Howards End.** Margaret receives an offer which changes her plans significantly, while Evie's wedding brings the Schlegel, Bast and Wilcox families together – and drags secrets into the light.
10.00 **BBC News.**
10.20 **Regional Programme.**
10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action.
11.30 **Ronny Chieng: International Student.** Ronny agrees to fill in for Asher at her job.
11.55 **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
12.00 **BBC News.**

BBC2

6.05 Coast. (R) **6.50** A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.35** The Secret History of the British Garden. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Food & Drink. (R) **11.30** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** International Rugby Union. (R) **2.00** Ghost Bear Family: Natural World. (R) **3.00** Demolition: The Wrecking Crew. (R) **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.45** Flog It! (R) **5.45** Turkey with Simon Reeve. (R)
6.45 **Film: Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day.** (2014) Premiere. An 11-year-old boy has a day where everything seems to go wrong, but gets no sympathy from his family. He becomes convinced that bad things only ever happen to him, but then his parents, his brother and his sister all suffer terrible days of their own. Family comedy based on Judith Viorst's series of children's books, starring Ed Oxenbould, Steve Carell and Jennifer Garner.
8.00 **Robot Wars.** Robots Expulsion, Coyote, Thor, Magnetar, Hobbogoblin and Push to Exit battle it out for a place in the grand final. Among the players controlling the machines are self-taught engineer Ellis, and a team of schoolchildren determined to prove lack of experience is not a problem. Presented by Dara O Briain and Angela Scanlon.
9.00 **Expedition Volcano.** Part one of two. Documentary following scientists studying some of the world's most dangerous active volcanoes in the Congo. The series begins by exploring Nyiragongo, which has erupted twice in the last 50 years, most recently in 2002, when it devastated the nearby city of Goma. However, it lies in a region troubled by war and humanitarian crises, which has made study of the volcano difficult.
10.00 **Snowfall.** Lucia finds it hard to break away from her family, Teddy tries to cover Alejandro's tracks, and Franklin faces new threats. Guest starring Billy Boyd (The Lord of the Rings).
10.40 **Film: John Carter.** (2012) Fantasy adventure, with Taylor Kitsch and Lynn Collins.
12.40 Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **1.45** Holby City. (R) **2.40** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Mission Emplayable. (R) **7.05** Outcasts. (R) **7.10** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ben 10. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Make It Pop. (R) **8.00** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** Save Money: Good Food. (R) **11.30** Tipping Point. (R) **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.45** The X Factor: The Semi Finals. (R) **2.20** Midsomer Murders. (R) **4.10** Les Dawson Forever.
6.05 **Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.15** **ITV News:** Weather.
6.30 **The Chase: Celebrity Special.** Patrick Baladi, Vicky Williamson, John Graven and Kevin Eldon work as a team to secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh. Last in the series.
7.30 **The X Factor: The Semi Finals.** Dermot O'Leary hosts as the remaining contestants take to the stage, hoping to make it into the grand final, with judges Louis Walsh, Nicole Scherzinger, Simon Cowell and Sharon Osbourne battling it out to keep their acts in the show. This year Louis has the Boys, Nicole the Overs, Simon the Groups and Sharon the Girls.
9.00 **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!** Ant and Dec give viewers at home a chance to catch up with the superstar castaways as they prepare to enter their second week in the jungle. Plus, the competition steps up a gear as the celebrities face this year's live Bush Tucker Trial. In 2016, the contestants took part in the "Hungry Games" as part of the live trial, with Adam Thomas, Jordan Banjo, Ola Jordan and Wayne Bridge emerging victorious.
10.30 **ITV News:** Weather.
10.45 **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston and Allegra Stratton. Last in the series. (R)
11.45 **Road Rage Britain: Caught on Camera.** (R)
12.45 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

7.55 Frasier. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Live Build-Up. A look ahead to today's Grand Prix. **12.35** Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Live. The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (Start-time 1.00pm). **3.10** Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Live Reaction. In-depth analysis of this afternoon's race. **4.35** Speed with Guy Martin: F1 Challenge. (R) **5.35** Channel 4 News.
6.05 **Film: Men in Black 3.** (2012) An alien criminal escapes from a prison on the moon and goes back in time on a mission of revenge, changing the course of history. Agent J of the top-secret Earth defence organisation follows him back to 1969, and joins forces with a younger version of his mentor Agent K to set things right. Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Will Smith, Josh Brolin and Tommy Lee Jones. Edited for language and violence.
8.00 **Coastal Railways with Julie Walters.** New series. The actress travels around the UK coast by train, beginning by boarding the famous Jacobite steam train for a trip along Scotland's West Highland Railway, famously featured in the Harry Potter movies. Along the way, Julie learns about herring gutting and blowing up railway lines, and meets a traditional Scottish storyteller on the Isle of Skye.
9.00 **Guy Martin vs the Robocar.** The presenter explores the world of automated self-driving vehicles, attempting to build one of his own in his shed. He takes a trip to Budapest for a ride in a completely autonomous vehicle, which is being tested on public roads for the first time. Finally, he heads to Silverstone, to take on a computer-controlled car in a race.
10.00 **Film: RoboCop.** (2014) A critically injured police officer is rebuilt as a crime-fighting cyborg, but struggles to retain free will. Sci-fi thriller remake, with Joel Kinnaman and Gary Oldman.
12.10 **Film: Good Kill.** (2014) Drama, starring Ethan Hawke. **2.00** The Supervet. A cocker spaniel has a bulging disc in its spine. (R) **3.00** Trump: An American Dream. (R) **3.55** Location, Location. (R) **4.50** Gillette World Sport. **5.15** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **5.45** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R) **5.55** Kevin Can Wait.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.35** Wissper. (R) **6.40** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.45** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.35** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.35** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.50** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.20** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.35** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.20** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.10** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.40** Film: A Christmas Tale. (2012) **1.20** Film: Winter Wedding. (2017) Premiere. Romantic drama, starring Andrea Bowen. **3.10** Film: A Christmas to Remember. (2016) Concluded. **4.55** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest. (2006) Concluded.
7.55 **5 News Weekend.**
8.00 **Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights.** Mark Durden-Smith and David Flatman present action from the ninth round of matches, including Newcastle Falcons v Gloucester at Kingston Park, Sale Sharks v Northampton Saints at the AJ Bell Stadium and Leicester Tigers v Worcester Warriors at Welford Road.
9.00 **Film: Fury.** (2014) An American tank crew undertakes a final dangerous mission behind enemy lines in the last months of the Second World War. Drama, starring Brad Pitt and Shia LaBeouf.
10.00 **5 News Update.**
10.05 **Film: Fury.** (2014) Concluded.
11.35 **Film: Flight of the Phoenix.** (2004) A plane crashes in the desert and the survivors plan to return to civilisation by building a new aircraft from the wreckage. Adventure, starring Dennis Quaid and Tyrese Gibson.
1.40 SuperCasino. **3.10** Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railway Journeys. (R) **4.00** My Mum's Hotter Than Me! (R) **4.50** Great Artists. (R) **5.20** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Great Continental Railway Journeys
7.30 University Challenge **8.00** Nigel Kennedy at the BBC **9.00** Shark **10.00** Walrus: Two Tonne Tusker – Natural World **11.00** Naples '44: A Wartime Diary **12.20** Nigel Kennedy at the BBC **1.20** Shark **2.20** Walrus: Two Tonne Tusker – Natural World **3.20** Close
ITV2
12.30 Take Me Out **2.00** You've Been Framed and Famous! **3.05** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **4.05** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **6.00** Film: Evan Almighty (2007) **7.00** FYI Daily **7.05** Film: Evan Almighty (2007) **8.05** Film: Wrath of the Titans (2012) **8.55** FYI Daily **9.10** Film: Wrath of the Titans (2012) **10.00** Family Guy **10.30** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp **11.30** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.30** Release the Hounds **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
12.05 Wycliffe **1.15** Film: Columbo: How to Dial a Murder (1978) **2.50** Lewis **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Housewife, 49 **9.00** Endeavour **11.05** The Blonde Bombshell **1.15** Heartbeat **2.05** The Knock **3.55** Wycliffe **4.50** Judge Judy **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen
ITV4
11.40 The Darts Show **12.45** Live Darts: Players Championship Finals. Coverage of the quarter-finals from Butlins Minehead. **5.00** Pawn Stars **6.00** River Monsters **7.00** Live Darts: Players Championship Finals. Coverage of the semi-finals and final at Butlins Minehead. **11.00** Film: Crank (2006) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05** Film: Crank (2006) **2.45** The Sweeney **1.45** The Avengers **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
11.00 Made in Chelsea **12.00** Don't Tell the Bride **1.00** Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **2.55** Rude (ish) Tube Shorts **3.00** The Goldbergs **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film: Ghostbusters II (1989)
10.05 The Big Bang Theory: Who You Gonna Call? **11.05** Googlebox **12.10** Rude Tube **1.15** First Dates **2.20** Googlebox **3.15** Rude Tube **3.40** Hollywoods
Film4
11.00 Thunderbirds (2004) **12.50** The Riot Club Interview Special **1.00** The Phantom (1996) **3.00** Fletch (1985) **5.05** The Muet Christmas Carol (1992) **6.45** Miracle on 34th Street (1994) **9.00** Cowboys & Aliens (2011) **11.20** The Lincoln Lawyer (2011)

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

A Perfect Christmas, Channel 5, 3.45pm

An advertising executive walks past a display mannequin in a department store window every day. When she suffers a bad fall outside the shop, the dummy comes to life to help her. He turns out to be everything she has always wanted in a man – but she soon realises her dream does not bring her happiness. Festive fantasy, starring Claire Coffee and Ryan McPartlin. (2012)

TUESDAY

The Christmas Switch, Channel 5, 2pm

A hustler is asked to magically swap bodies with a dying man at Christmas in return for either a million dollars or having all his past sins forgiven. He chooses the money, but as he watches the other man using his body to do good deeds, he begins to reconsider what is important in his life. Fantasy, starring Brian Krause, Cedric Smith and Natasha Henstridge. (2014)



Total Recall, Friday, ITV, 11.15pm

WEDNESDAY

A Bride for Christmas, Channel 5, 11.45am

A woman swears off serious relationships after breaking off her third failed engagement, only to run into a man who seems perfect for her a month before Christmas. However, she does not realise he has made a bet with his friends that he can persuade a woman to marry him before the holiday begins. Romantic drama, with Arielle Kebbel. (2012)

THURSDAY

Seventh Son, Channel 5, 9pm

Premiere. A professional monster hunter hires a young apprentice to help him track down an evil queen. Fantasy adventure, starring Ben Barnes and Jeff Bridges. (2014)

FRIDAY

Total Recall, ITV, 11.15pm

A construction worker pays to have fake memories of a dream holiday implanted into his brain, but discovers his mind has already been tampered with – apparently to erase his true identity as a secret agent from a colony on Mars. Paul Verhoeven's sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Rachel Ticotin and Michael Ironside. (1990)

Paul looks to serve up a tasty treat in new series

Say what you like about the latest Bake Off – and there are those of us who still feel nostalgic for the BBC days despite having great respect for Channel 4's handling of the series – but the latest run was an unmitigated success.

At 11 million viewers, the final was watched by the channel's biggest audience in 32 years (the 1985 drama A Woman of Substance pipped it to the post), and the second-biggest ever in Channel 4 history. It was still behind the Beeb's 2016 final, which drew in 14.8 million, but let's not split macarons here – after all, Prue Leith did give away the winner 12 hours before transmission.

Anyway, the anchor which enabled the new cast – judge Leith, and hosts Sandi Toksvig and Noel Fielding – to merge almost seamlessly into the old format was Paul Hollywood, the blue-eyed baking pro who's been with the show since series one. He's become notorious for his strict

judging style as well as the occasional praise he doles out to those (very few) deserving bakers – the "Hollywood Handshake" has become serious currency in Bake Off circles.

The fact is, Hollywood knows his stuff. He began working at a bakery – his father's – as a teenager, and went on to work as head baker at a number of prestigious hotels and restaurants throughout the UK and in Cyprus. This was all before he found fame. During this time, he's learned a thing or two about baking.

In this new series, he prepares to impart some of that knowledge – as well as, giving this series a rather unique twist, integrating some previously unseen footage from the Bake Off tent and even the auditions phase. This means it's a must for any fans of the series, who are hungry for more helpings before the next series comes along.

Noel and Sandi crop up, too, offering their inimitable insights,

while Prue is also on hand to keep Paul in line. Think of it as a reunion, then – especially when previous contestants Val and Selasi turn up to challenge Paul to bake a pistachio and rose petal roulade. Which he does, of course, with customary panache.

Other recipes – this is a baking show, after all – include Paul's favourite pizza recipe: a courgette, lemon and thyme-topped bake, an unusual combination for which he gives credit to Venice.

He also gets out and about, visiting the famous motor racing track Silverstone where he makes a childhood-favourite burger recipe for a barbecue held in the paddock, before heading back to the Bake Off tent with Prue, where he bakes a madeira celebration cake. He hands over the decoration of this particular confection to Noel and Sandi, who oblige with a "nude" meringue finish. Expect some risqué puns about that, then.



Paul Hollywood: A Baker's Life, Monday, Channel 4, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Supershoppers

Channel 4, 8.30pm

New series. The consumer advice show returns with Anna Richardson joined by new co-presenter Sabrina Grant to provide the lowdown on favourite brands and retailers, as well as tips on how to get the best deals. In the first edition Anna and Sabrina look at supermarkets' own ranges and investigate whether cheaper value-range products might be identical to pricier standard own-label lines. Plus, they offer advice on how to buy cheaper car insurance, and there is a face-off between cheap and expensive beauty wipes.

TUESDAY

MOTD Live

BBC2, 6.55pm

Following their World Cup Qualifier against Bosnia on Friday, England Women welcome Kazakhstan to Colchester United's Weston Homes Community Stadium. One player who can't wait for the Group One game is England's Essex-born defender Casey Stoney. 'I'm particularly looking forward to playing in Colchester', the Liverpool star says. 'I come from Basildon so it's great to have a game in my home county.' This is the first time the two nations have met, and Mo Marley's Lionesses will be expected to

put on a good showing tonight and secure a comfortable victory, similar to that of the 6-0 thrashing of Russia in September. Nikita Parris, Jodie Taylor, Jordan Nobbs, Lucy Bronze and Toni Duggan (two) were all on target that evening in Tranmere.

WEDNESDAY

The Channel: The World's Busiest Waterway

Channel 4, 9pm

More than 400 ships pass through the 21-mile-wide Dover Strait every day, making it, as the title of this new series suggests, the busiest waterway in the world. But the English Channel is also significant for the way it defines Britain's border with Europe – and in the wake of Brexit, these are uncertain times for the people who live and work on the waters. To offer a further insight into the life of the waterway, cameras go inside the Channel Tunnel, on board ferries and freighters and into the hidden nerve centres to see what it takes to keep the system moving. In the first episode, ferry captain Mark deals with high winds and drunk

passengers, while swimmer Naomi attempts to navigate her way through some challenging conditions.

THURSDAY

Great Canal Journeys

Channel 4, 8pm

They may be in their 80s, but there's no stopping Timothy West and Prunella Scales. They seem to have only just got back from their latest batch of jaunts, and here they are, off again on a two-part adventure which begins in north west Portugal. They're getting up close and personal with the dramatic local landscape while travelling down the Rio Douro via an old trade route.

En route the couple will stop off at the local vineyards, often perched on the nearby hillslopes. It's a trip unlike any they've taken before, and includes the deepest lock in Europe and

various sites of ancient historical importance. But there's a little taste of home too in the form of a traditional English gentlemen's club in Porto before a chance to follow in the footsteps of a Yorkshire-born entrepreneur.

FRIDAY

Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast Channel 4, 8pm

Hosts Jamie Oliver and Jimmy Doherty are joined by Joanna Lumley in their cafe at the end of Southend Pier, and this time the menu is exclusively vegetarian, as the Ab Fab actress cooks the King of Malaysia's favourite dish, bringing back to life the tastes and smells of her childhood. Jamie prepares a spectacular M'hanncha – a spiral of filo pastry stuffed with pearl barley and butternut squash and the boys take to the road to champion British fava beans – which could help both the nation's farmers and its diet.

Eight Days That Made Rome: The Downfall of Nero Channel 5, 9pm

Bettany Hughes focuses on events leading up to and after 9th June 68AD, when Emperor Nero took his life, examining how it triggered the eventual decline of the Roman Empire.



Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast, Friday, Channel 4, 8pm

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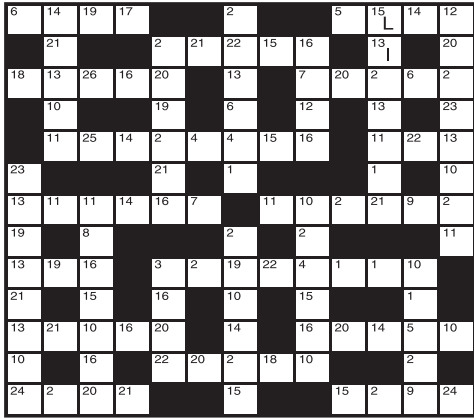
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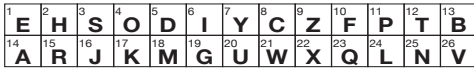
No.457

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

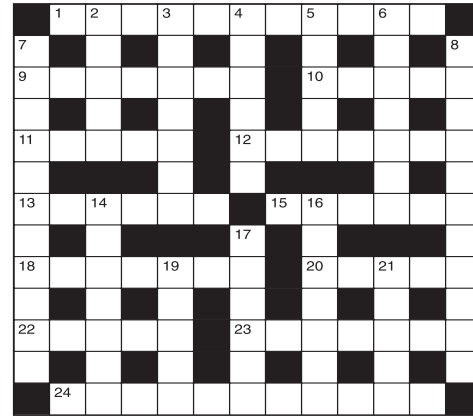
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. The old boy with the only perfume going out of date (11)
9. Put on one's own for not being punctual? (7)
10. Material from the French island (5)
11. A language of South India (5)
12. He has time to fill in his job (7)
13. Threaten to finish one politician (6)
15. Does he record runs in twenties? (6)
18. Wishing success before tomorrow? (4,3)
20. Song in really rich style (5)
22. Stale in the smallest degree (5)
23. Lie is wrong, certainly, but gives restful ease (7)
24. Zodiacal sign not revealed to office workers (11)

Down

2. Colour for brother to possess (5)
3. Enthusiastic applause for egg production? (7)
4. Corrects me on rising to conclusions (6)
5. Officer doesn't need the Spanish punctuation mark (5)
6. Retains more offensive order (7)
7. The bird presumably had something to sing about in the morning (11)
8. Insect on trial in international sport (4,7)
14. Irreligious, but in favour of temple (7)
16. He surfaces after work, of course (7)
17. Organ permitted to find loophole (6)
19. Put off animals from going inland eternally (5)
21. Stir or get up to exercise (5)



Quick Clues:

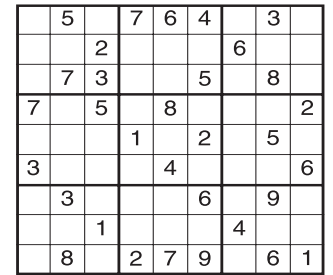
Across

1. Besides (11)
9. Horseman's iron (7)
10. Granted (5)
11. Anoint (5)
12. Canadian province (7)
13. Flippancy (6)
15. Slumbering (6)
18. Excess (7)
20. Characteristic (5)
22. Decree (5)
23. Exhilaration (7)
24. Enterprise (11)

Down

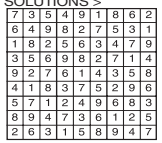
2. Combine (5)
3. Flood (7)
4. Set at work (6)
5. Strength (5)
6. Daydream (7)
7. Permanent (11)
8. Very inefficient (11)
14. Rendering (7)
16. Relapse (3-4)
17. Acquiesce (6)
19. Supple (5)
21. Foreign (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Arranger; 5 Cool; 9 Purr; 10 Strident; 11 Right; 12 Replace; 13 Temperateness; 18 Apparent; 19 Goal; 20 Protege; 21 David; 22 Rake; 23 Standing. Down: 2 Routine; 3 Airship; 4 Entertainment; 6 Operate; 7 Letters; 8 Simple; 13 Trapper; 14 Mapbook; 15 Earned; 16 Niggard; 17 Station. QUICK - Across: 1 Sanctify; 5 Acid; 9 Bye; 10 Accident; 11 Smart; 12 Talents; 13 Play upon words; 18 Interest; 19 Thin; 20 Bondage; 21 Solid; 22 Egan; 23 Astonish. Down: 2 Abysmal; 3 Clearly; 4 Facetiousness; 6 Cleaner; 7 Detests; 8 Pillow; 13 Pliable; 14 Antenna; 15 Uproar; 16 Outworn; 17 Deities.

Quiz

1. Which disorder is also called word blindness?
2. What is a dunlin?
3. In which children's TV series would you find Alderney and Tobermory?
4. Which singer was born Declan McManus?
5. Which US President was assassinated in Buffalo?
6. To which family does the lovebird belong?
7. Which Vicar of Dibley star posed nude for Esquire magazine?
8. Which art-form was regulated in the US by the Hays Office?
9. Of what is Ceres the largest known example?
10. According to Arthurian legend, who was Sir Galahad's father?

Last week's solutions:

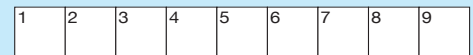
- Quiz: 1 Benjamin Franklin; 2 Luxembourg; 3 J Edgar Hoover; 4 Polish; 5 Propaganda; 6 Aaron; 7 Muskrat; 8 One; 9 California; 10 George Eliot.
- Niner: METAPHORS

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

34564
14925
57899428

gives a French author,
gives a French sculptor,
gives a French painter.



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SAT 8.30-16.00
SUN 10.00-16.00



PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

Four-bed home in popular area is well presented

This well-presented and extended four-bedroomed semi-detached property, in the ever-popular New Invention area of Willenhall in Delamere Road, is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £189,995 with no chain.

It has an entrance porch, an entrance hall, a lounge, kitchen/diner, separate utility, integral garage, four bedrooms, bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, off-road parking, a private rear garden and an additional garage/workshop.

The property is superbly situated for access to a wide range of local amenities, popular local schools and excellent transport links.

In more detail, French doors open to the porch with ceiling spotlights and a door through to the entrance hall, which has stairs off. The lounge has a feature fireplace with a living flame gas fire, a front bay window and laminate flooring.

The kitchen/diner has a range of wall and base units with complementary worktops over, tiled splash-backs, an integrated double oven, a gas hob with an extractor cupboard over and integrated slim-line dishwasher, a window to the rear, a walk-in storage cupboard, French doors to the rear garden, ceramic tiled flooring and a door through to the utility area.

This has plumbing for an automatic washing machine, space for additional appliances, a door to the rear garden, ceramic tiled flooring and door to the integral garage.

Upstairs, bedroom one has built-in wardrobes with sliding doors and a window to the front. Bedroom two has a built-in storage cupboard and a window overlooking the rear garden and laminate flooring. Bedroom three overlooks the frontage of the property, while bedroom four has windows to both the front and rear.

The bathroom includes a panelled bath with a thermostatic mixer shower over, pedestal wash hand basin, a low level WC, part tiled walls and vinyl flooring.

Outside, the rear garden is fully enclosed having a paved patio area, lawn and a generous brick-built garage. This detached garage lies to the rear of the garden. There is no vehicular access, and this space is ideal for use as a workshop or for storage.

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: L&S Prestige Estates Ltd

TEL: 01902 606 595

EMAIL: info@prestige-estatesuk.com



KEY FEATURES

Extended semi-detached

4 bedrooms

Kitchen/diner

2 garages/workshop

No chain



WILLENHALL £189,995



loveyourpostcode.com®
One Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2BJ | 0800 862 0870

focus on achievingmore™
Selling fees from £849 inc VAT

LOVEYOUR
POSTCODE



Well-kept bungalow has feature fireplace

ALDRIDGE
£289,950

<<<

A WELL-equipped semi-detached three-bedroomed bungalow, 51 Druids Avenue, Aldridge, Walsall, is for sale through Boot & Son at £289,950.

It has a side entrance hall with two storage cupboards, a lounge with a stone feature fire surround having a natural flame gas fire and Cornish slate hearth and ornament shelves. The breakfast kitchen has a peninsula unit with a breakfast bar, an integrated automatic dishwasher, gas-fired range, oven hood and laminate flooring.

There are three bedrooms and a fully-tiled bathroom with both a bath and a quadrant shower cubicle, a carport, detached garage, greenhouse and gardens.

For further information, please contact the selling agents, Boot & Son on 01543 505454 or visit www.bootandson.co.uk



Modern style semi is new to market

WALSALL
£117,500

Delightfully situated, this modern style semi-detached two-bedroomed house in The Butts, Walsall, has recently joined the property market.

Having been significantly improved by the present owner, it is for sale through Fraser Wood at £117,500.

It has a small porch entrance, an entrance hall, a lounge with a marble fireplace and hearth housing a coal-effect fire, a dining kitchen with a full range of fitted base and wall cupboards, an integrated gas hob and electric oven, plumbing for automatic washing machine, a pantry off and a door to the rear garden. Upstairs are the two bedrooms and a newly fitted bathroom.

For further information, contact agents Edwards Moore on 01922 745105.



Chartered Surveyors



Estate Agents

HOLY TRINITY VICARAGE, SHORT HEATH EPC: D

- . Detached House
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Dining Room
- . Four Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . Garage

£775pcm - plus fees

THE SCHOOL HOUSE, WALSALL EPC: E

- . Detached Bungalow
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . Shower Room
- . Fore and Rear Gardens

£700pcm - plus fees

HUT HILL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY TBC

- . Semi-Detached Bungalow
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . UPVC DG, GCH
- . Garage

£650pcm - plus fees

BLOXWICH ROAD, WALSALL EPC: D

- . Terraced House
- . Lounge, Dining Room
- . Kitchen, Downstairs Bathroom
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Upstairs Shower Room
- . GCH, UPVC DG

£525pcm - plus fees

HIGH VIEW, WALSALL EPC: D

- . First Floor Flat
- . Over 55's Only
- . Opportunity To Buy
- . Communal Laundry
- . Lounge / Dining Room
- . Kitchen, Bathroom
- . Two Bedrooms, £7 Heating

£520pcm - plus fees

CLOCKMILL AVENUE, PELSALL EPC: D

- . Semi-Detached House
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . UPVC, Double Glazing
- . Gas Central Heating

£495pcm - plus fees

PRIMLEY AVENUE, WALSALL EPC: D

- . Semi Detached House
- . Through Lounge
- . Kitchen
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . GCH, UPVC DG

£475pcm - plus fees

FIELD ROAD, BLOXWICH EPC: B

- . Ground Floor Apartment
- . Open Plan Kitchen
- . Living / Dining Area
- . Bathroom, Two Bedrooms
- . GCH, UPVC DG
- . 2 Parking Spaces

£465pcm - plus fees

WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY EPC: D

- . First Floor Flat Above Shop
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . One Bedroom
- . Bathroom
- . UPVC DG, GCH
- . Patio Area To Rear

£450pcm - plus fees

CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON EPC: E

- . Split Level Flat
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Lounge / Dining Area
- . Kitchen with hob & oven
- . Shower Room
- . Gas Central Heating
- . Part UPVC Double Glazing

£395pcm - plus fees

CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON EPC: C

- . First Floor Flat
- . Good Size Lounge
- . Kitchen With Appliances
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Bathroom
- . Gas Central Heating
- . UPVC Double Glazing

£375pcm - plus fees

CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON EPC: D

- . Ground Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Shower Room
- . UPVC Double Glazing
- . Electric Heating

£350pcm - plus fees

An application fee of £200 inclusive of VAT is charged for upto two applications sharing the same property

www.fraser-wood.co.uk
15 Lichfield Street, Walsall





Webbs
Estate Agents

**01922
663399**

**74c Park Road
Bloxwich WS3 3SW**

E: sales@webbsestateagents.co.uk

W: webbsestateagents.co.uk

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No Fee*

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NEW

BLOXWICH
STAFFORD CLOSE




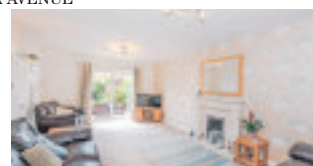



- Porch,
- Hallway,
- Lounge Diner
- Conservatory
- Extended Breakfast Kitchen,
- Lounge/diner,
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Refitted Shower Room.
- Private Driveway,
- Garage And Landscaped Gardens

\$275,000

REDUCED

BLOXWICH
VICTORIA AVENUE

- Family Detached Home
- Guests WC
- Lounge
- Refitted Kitchen/Diner
- 4 Double Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

OFFERS OVER \$240,000

NEW

BLOXWICH
BEALEYS CLOSE




- Adjacent to Turnberry Estate
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen, Conservatory
- Utility, Guests WC
- 4 Bedrooms
- En-Suite Bathroom
- Double Garage
- Must Be Viewed

\$325,000

NEW

BLOXWICH
THE BRADES, LICHFIELD ROAD






- Deceptively Spacious Character Property
- Six Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Refitted Family Bathroom
- Well Equipped Breakfast Kitchen
- Original Features
- Utility And Guest Wc
- Detached Double Garage/annex
- Generous Driveway

\$349,950

NEW

FEATHERSTON
OAKS DRIVE






- Generous Kitchen
- Lounge,
- Dining Room,
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Re-fitted Bathroom.
- Landscaped Gardens
- Private Driveway.
- Internal Viewing Is Essential

\$154,950

REDUCED

BLOXWICH
LANCASTER PLACE




- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen Diner,
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom And Wc.
- Gardens,
- Driveway
- Detached Garage.

OFFERS OVER \$113,000

REDUCED

BLOXWICH
BELL TOWER CLOSE




- Modern Apartment
- Communal Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Parking
- NO CHAIN

OFFERS OVER \$80,000

NEW

WALSALL
EAGLEWORKS






- Ground Floor
- Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Parking
- Viewing Recommended

\$39,950 40% Shared

"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"

L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



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The Chronicle Thursday, November 23, 2017

UPPER PENN

GREAT HALL GROVE, W'TON

Five Bedroom Executive Detached, Lounge & Separate Study, Modern Fitted Kitchen/ Diner, Conservatory, Guest W.C, Family Bathroom, En-Suite to both Master & Bedroom 2, Office/ Den, Double Garage & Off Road Parking

OIEO £650,000

ESSINGTON

HOUGH WAY, ESSINGTON

Executive Five Bed Detached, Guest W.C, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility Room, Two En-Suite Shower Rooms, Refitted Family Shower Room, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Garage

OFFERS OVER £340,000

ESSINGTON

SNEYD LANE, W'TON

Three Bedroom Semi Detached, 26Ft Through Lounge/Diner, Impressive Fitted Kitchen, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Garage, Enviably Location

OFFERS OVER £220,000

BRACKENDALE

DURSLEY CLOSE, WILLENHALL

Four/Five Bedroom Detached, 23ft x 15ft Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/ Diner, Utility Room, Guest W.C, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway & Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden

OFFERS OVER £220,000

WILLENHALL

DELAMERE ROAD, NEW INVENTION

Extended Four Bed Semi, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility Area, Integral Garage, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Off Road Parking, Separate Garage/Workshop, No Chain

£189,995

BILSTON

MARBURY DRIVE, BILSTON

Modern Three Bed Link Detached, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Guest W.C, En-Suite Shower To Master, Family Shower Room, Part Double/ Part Triple Glazed & C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Garage

OFFERS OVER £150,000

BENTLEY

LANGMEAD CLOSE, WALSALL

Three Bed Semi Detached, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Front & Rear Garden, Driveway/Carport, Detached Garage, Viewing Advised!

£145,000

KINVER AVE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Town House Having Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/G, C/H. Ideal FTB Or Buy To Let

OFFERS OVER £100,000

WILLENHALL

SQUIRES GROVE, NEW INVENTION

Two Bed Second Floor Apartment, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, En-Suite To Master Bedroom, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Allocated & Visitors Parking, Viewing Advised, Great FTB Or BTL Investment

Offers Over £90,000

SHORT HEATH

EZEKIEL LANE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Terrace, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Rear Garden, Great BTL Or FTB, Viewing Advised!

OFFERS OVER £80,000

WILLENHALL

TAMESIDE CLOSE, WILLENHALL

Four Bed Mid Town House, 50% Shared Ownership, Ground Floor Kitchen/ Diner, First Floor Lounge, Master Bed With En-Suite, Three Second Floor Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Driveway & Garage, D/Glazing & C/Heating

SHARED EQUITY £80,000

DEANSFIELD

TYBURN RD,

Two Bed Second Floor Flat, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & Electric Heating, Available With Or Without Sitting Tenant, Great Buy To Let Investment, Viewing Advised!

OFFERS OVER £70,000

ESSINGTON

SNEYD LANE, W'TON

Three Bedroom Detached, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen With Dining Area, Utility Room, Guest W.C, Hooby Room/ Office, Family Bathroom, Maj.D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway & Garage, Front & Rear Gardens

OFFERS OVER £300,000

ST THOMAS LAWNS

PRINCETHORPE RD, WILLENHALL

Three Bedroom Detached, Spacious Lounge, Dining/Sitting Room, Feature Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Guest W.C, En-suite To Master, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway & Garage

OFFERS OVER £215,000

NEW INVENTION

JOHN RILEY DR, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi, Modern Refitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Separate Sitting Room, Modern Refitted Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Off Road Parking.

£145,000

SHORT HEATH

MARTIN DRIVE, WILLENHALL

Three Bedroom Semi Detached, 16ft Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway & Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden, Viewing Advised, Leasehold Property

OFFERS OVER £130,000

SHORT HEATH

BIRCHTREE H'W, W'HALL

Extended Four/Five Bed Semi, Spacious Open Plan Lounge/ Diner, Separate Sitting/Play Room, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/Heating

£775 PCM

SUMMER HAYES

THE HAYES, WILLENHALL

Immaculate Three Bed Town House, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom With Shower, Conservatory, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Landscaped Rear Garden, Garage In Separate Block

£600 PCM

WILLENHALL

LITTLE CLOTHIER ST, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Semi Detached, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway Parking, Front & Rear Gardens, Cul-De-Sac Location

£575 PCM

BRACKENDALE

STROUD AVE, WILLENHALL

Spacious Three Bed Town House, Generous Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C, Three Good Size Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing & G/C/Heating, Rear Garden & Garage

£550 PCM

SHORT HEATH

HOWE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Town House, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Off Road Parking, Enclosed Rear Garden

£525 PCM

WILLENHALL

GRANVILLE ST, WILLENHALL

Spacious Three Bed Mid Terrace, Two Reception Rooms, New Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, Three Generous Bedrooms, D/Glazing & G/C/ Heating, Rear Garden, Must View!

£500 PCM

WILLENHALL

STAFFORD ST, W'HALL

Spacious Two Bed Flat Being Set Over Two Floors, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Generous Double Bedrooms, Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating

£450 PCM

WILLENHALL

LOWER LICHFIELD ST, WILLENHALL

Self Contained First Floor One Bed Flat, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Close To Willenhall Centre

£350 PCM

Willenhall 01902 606595 www.prestige-estatesuk.com





Luxury one-bed apartment in city

BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTRE

£995 PCM

This luxury one-bedroomed duplex apartment in The Duplex, King Edwards Wharf, Sheepcote Street, Birmingham, is available to rent to working professionals, through loveyourpostcode.com at £995 per calendar month.

The living accommodation is of open plan, combining the kitchen, living and dining area. The interiors are finished with a neutral décor and real wood flooring.

You can also benefit from a Juliette balcony with iconic views, overlooking the canalside.

This luxury apartment has a first-floor bedroom. The room is of double bed size with surrounding space for desks and wardrobes.

Further benefits include a private en-suite with a shower cubicle, sink and WC.



One-bed flat with tenant in place is ideal investment

BIRMINGHAM

£54,950

<<<

Having a six month tenancy in place, this one-bedroomed flat in 46-48 Handsworth Wood Road, Birmingham, is for sale through loveyourpostcode.com at £54,950.

Rent currently being achieved is £500 per calendar month.

A second floor property, it has a newly fitted bathroom, parking and large rear gardens, electrical heating and a neutral decor.

Having a communal entrance, this home has been recently refurbished.

Handsworth Wood Road is in the leafy and most sought-after area of Handsworth Wood.

The flat is approached via a communal building with a stairway leading to the second floor.

Contact loveyourpostcode.com on 0800 862 0870.

K. Stuart Swash

AUCTION - 12TH DECEMBER 2017



51 TURLS HILL ROAD, SEDGLEY, DY3 1HQ

Ripe for refurbishment - generous corner plot, Two Reception, Kitchen, Four Beds, Bathroom, Gas CH, Garage, Outbuilding. Epc: TBA.

Guide £110,000 / £115,000.

Viewing: Friday & Saturday, 24th & 25th November @ 9.45 a.m.



LAWLEY ROAD, BILSTON, WV14 0NB

Residential Building Land. Planning Permission granted for 4 Semi-Detached Three Bedroomed Houses - cul-de-sac location. Established residential area.

Guide £115,000 / £120,000.



62 COTON ROAD, PENN, WV4 5AT

Attractive individual Bungalow - some modernisation needed, 18ft Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas CH., Basement Stores, Garage, terraced Garden. Epc: TBA.

Guide £145,000

Viewing: Friday & Saturday, 24th & 25th November @ 11.00 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Viewing of all Lots at own risk. Viewings are at the times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule.

2, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton | 01902 710626 / 424044 E-mail: swashauctions@btconnect.com | www.kstuartswash.co.uk



Charming four-bed detached family home for sale

Early viewings are being highly recommended for this charming four-bedroomed detached house in Sandpiper Way, Erdington.

It is for sale through Liberty Estates at £245,000. A modern home, its accommodation briefly comprises two reception rooms, a fitted kitchen, a cloakroom/WC, four bedrooms (master en-suite), a family bathroom, a garage and a driveway.

ERDINGTON

£245,000

The property is double glazed and warmed by centrally heating.

It is set back from the roadside with a paved driveway for several cars.

The entrance hall has laminate

flooring and stairs off. Both reception rooms have laminate flooring, with reception room two having French doors to the garden.

The kitchen includes an integrated double oven, gas hob, cooker hood, plumbing for automatic washing machine and a dishwasher.

To book a viewing, contact Liberty Estates on 0121 565 1010.



Very flexible accommodation on offer at this semi-detached

This superb three-bedroom semi-detached house in City Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, has flexible living space and is ideal as a long-term family home.

Located close to the city centre and commuter links, it is for sale through loveyourpostcode.com at £324,950.

The property has a walled driveway with ample parking for several vehicles and is on a corner plot with a garage and further parking space. It has a generous hallway, a living room with a feature fireplace and unique bay window adding real character. The second living room is bathed in light from the double doors, while a

EDGBASTON
£324,950

conservatory has views and access to the garden. The kitchen has space for a table.

To the first floor there is a master bedroom with a unique bay window mirroring the living room below, which attracts lots of natural light. There is a cupboard within the bedroom which could allow for en-suite.

The remaining two bedrooms are also double

and overlook the garden and there is a WC on this floor.

The garden is mostly laid to lawn and is not overlooked. The location of this property sits within close reach of central Birmingham.

Travelling by bus enables you to be at the Bullring shopping complex in less than 15 minutes and alternatively the four bus stops on the road allows you to towards Smethwick or towards central Birmingham.

Edgbaston Reservoir is a short bike ride or stroll away. Contact loveyourpostcode.com on 0800 862 0870.



NEW VENUE

AUCTION

Monday 4th December 2017

7pm Prompt at

THE GARDEN ROOM, OAK FARM HOTEL

Watling Street, Hatherton,

Cannock, WS11 1SB

Address	Wednesday 22nd & 29th November	Saturday 18th & 25th November & 2nd December
43 High Street, Chasetown, Burntwood	10.00am	10.00am
72 Cannock Road, Chase Terrace, Burntwood	10.30am	10.30am
Land to Rear of 77 Old Fallow Road, Cannock	11.15am	11.15am
1a Holden Crescent, Coalpool, Walsall	12.00pm	12.00pm
Amenity Woodland North East of 52 Cannock Road, Featherstone	BY CALLING ON SITE WITH AUCTION CATALOGUE TO HAND PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS ENTER THE SITE AT THEIR OWN RISK	
Land to Rear of 1-5 Victoria Street Off Cemetery Road, Cannock	BY CALLING ON SITE WITH AUCTION CATALOGUE TO HAND	
01543 505454 www.bootandson.co.uk		



14TH DECEMBER

Aston Villa Football Ground
Starting at 10:30am

AUCTION

OVER 100 LOTS

To include properties on behalf of:
Plus properties on behalf of Receivers/Housing Associations



9 Mountbatten Road, Bentley
2 Bed Semi Detached House
Guide: £72,000+ (plus fees)



34 Lodge Road, Wednesbury
2 Bed Semi Detached House
Guide: £19,000-£24,000 (plus fees)



57 Winchester Rd, West Bromwich
2 Bed Semi Detached House
Guide: £55,000+ (plus fees)



17A Glentworth Gardens, Dunstall
3 Bed Detached Bungalow
Guide: £87,000+ (plus fees)



10 Ash Drive, West Bromwich
3 Bed Mid-Terraced House
Guide: £40,000+ (plus fees)



17 Hillside Road, Erdington
3 Bed Link Detached House
Guide: £50,000+ (plus fees)



23 Crossgate Road, Dudley
1 Bed Ground Floor Flat
Guide: £30,000+ (plus fees)



80 Longdon Road, Knowle
3 Bed Semi-Detached House
Guide: £200,000+ (plus fees)



44 Montague Road, Erdington
3 Bed Semi-Detached House
Guide: £50,000+ (plus fees)



124 George Road, Oldbury
2 Bed Residential Investment
Gross Current Income: £3,536 pa.
Guide: £50,000+ (plus fees)

Vacant Residential Properties, Residential Investments, Vacant Commercial Properties, Commercial Investments, Land/Development Opportunities, Garages & Ground Rents

0121 233 5046 **www.sdlauctions.co.uk** **@SDLBigwood**

Each property is subject to a Reserve Price which would ordinarily be within + or - 10% of the quoted Guide Price. Therefore the property may not be able to be purchased at the quoted Guide Price. Both Guide and Reserve Prices can be subject to change up to and including the day of the auction. For a full explanation go to www.sdlauctions.co.uk/glossary. All Guide Prices are subject to additional non-optional fees, including the buyers administration fee. For the Energy Performance Rating of each property please refer to the legal pack, our catalogue or website. Please contact our office for further details or advice.



www.auctionhouse.uk.net

Birmingham & Black Country

Estate House, Darwall Street, Walsall WS1 1DA

0121 289 3838

Auction

Tuesday 5th
December 2017
at 6.00pm Precisely

Banks's Stadium, Walsall
Football Club, Bescot
Crescent, Walsall. WS1 4SA

Lot 1 Glastonbury Crescent Bloxwich

23rd and 30th November 11:45am



Situated in a popular residential area this three bedroom semi detached property is ideally suited towards an investor. The first floor of the property is in need of total modernisation and improvement whereas the ground floor requires only light modernisation.

●Guide Price £40,000 PLUS

Lot 2 Chigwell Close Castle Vale

20th and 27th November 3:30pm



A modern semi detached family home, with part double glazing and gas fired central heating. Conveniently located the property offers spacious well planned living accommodation and is in need of basic improvements. Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Large fully enclosed Porch, front door to Entrance Hall, with large store cupboard off and Guest W.C. Lounge 4.07m x 3.81m, Dining Room 3.09m x 3.79m, Kitchen 4.07m x 2.85 with oven and hob and range of units. First Floor Landing with airing cupboard provides access to Bedroom 1 (front) 4.1m x 2.9m, Bedroom 2 (front) 3.14m x 3.85m, Bedroom 3 (rear) 3.84m x 2.034m, Bedroom 4 (rear) 3.23m x 2.86m. Bathroom.

●Guide Price £110,000 PLUS

Lot 3 Colehill Road Hodge Hill

20th and 27th November 3pm



This traditionally styled gas centrally heated and double glazed detached property is located on a corner plot in a sought after residential area of Birmingham. With good transport links, the property is in need of some basic modernisation, but offers an ideal opportunity for owner occupation or as an investor. Ground Floor Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall with W.C. off, Open plan through Lounge/Dining Room, Lounge area measuring 4.56m x 3.44m with bay to front and feature fireplace, Dining Area 3.47m x 3.62m with sliding patio doors to rear Garden. Kitchen 3.23m x 2.86m with range of units. First Floor Staircase leads to landing with access to Bedroom 1 (front) 4.62m x 3.38m, Bedroom 2 (rear) 3.48m x 3.41m, Bedroom 3 (rear) 2.93m x 2.46m, Bathroom with matching suite.

●Guide Price £215,000 PLUS

Lot 4 Working Mens Club, Hednesford Road Brownhills

By appointment through Auctioneer



Situated just off the A5 Watling Street within a short distance of Brownhills Town Centre, this former Working Men's Club occupies a plot approximately 0.36 of an acre and lends itself for residential development, subject to the necessary Planning. Set back behind a small forecourt, there is a side driveway leading to ample off street parking.

●Guide Price £135,000 PLUS

Lot 5 Holyhead Road Moxley

23rd and 30th November at 10am



Situated in a popular residential area just off the black country new road this three bedroom semi detached is ideally suited towards an investor. The property is in need of modernisation and with all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge and Kitchen with door to rear. First Floor Three bedrooms and one Bathroom. Outside At the front of the property there is a garden and drive providing off road parking. At the rear of the property there is a garden.

●Guide Price £65,000 PLUS

Lot 6 Cherry Tree Avenue Walsall

By appointment through auctioneers



A well maintained semi-detached property offering appealing living accommodation which of particular note enjoys a delightful rear garden together with good sized through Lounge/Dining Room. Conveniently situated close to all local amenities including ease of access to the Midlands motorway network at junction 7 Great Barr. The gas centrally heated UPVC double glazed property includes: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge (3.61m x 3.58m), Second reception room (3.58m x 3.43m), Kitchen (3.25m x 2.03m), First Floor Master Bedroom (3.81m x 3.58m), Bedroom two (3.6m x 3.4m), Bedroom three (2.5m x 2.3m), Outside Garage (7.26m x 3.2m) and a delightful rear garden.

●Guide Price £135,000 PLUS

Lot 7 Bloxwich Walsall

24th November 11am, 28th November 11am



Situated within a short distance of Walsall Town Centre, this Victorian mid-terraced property offers spacious well planned accommodation with the benefit of gas central heating and part double glazing. Ideally suited to the needs of an investor or first time buyer.

●Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

Lot 8 Holden Crescent Walsall

24th November 11:30am



This ground floor maisonette is situated in a convenient location ideal for buy to let investment. Offering upvc double glazing the property includes: Ground Floor Living Room, Re-Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Shower/Bathroom Outside Communal Rear Gardens

●Guide Price £32,000 PLUS

Lot 10 Stowe Street Bloxwich

23rd and 30th November 11:15am



Situated in a popular residential area a short distance from Bloxwich town centre this three bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation throughout. This property would be ideally suited towards an investor and with all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge (4.7m x 3.3m), Kitchen (5.5m x 2.8m) and W.C. First Floor Bedroom one (3.5m x 2.6m), Bedroom two (3.8m x 2.9m), Bedroom three (2.3m x 1.7m), Bathroom (1.9m x 2.1m)

●Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

Lot 11 Stag Hill Road Bloxwich

23rd and 30th November 10:45am



This three bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation throughout. This property offers a lot of potential and would be ideally suited towards an investor. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Reception Room (3.9m x 3.9m), Kitchen (5.1m x 2.2m) with door providing access to rear. First Floor Bedroom one (4.2m x 2.9m), Bedroom two (3.6m x 2.5m), Bedroom three (2.5m x 2.3m).

●Guide Price £70,000 PLUS

Lot 12 Sunnymede Road Kingswinford

22nd November 11am, 27th November 11am



This three bedroom semi detached property offers great potential for a future purchaser. With double glazing and gas central heating already fitted this property requires little modernisation. The property is situated in a popular residential area.

●Guide Price £100,000 PLUS

Lot 14 Myatt Way Aldridge

23rd and 30th November 12:30pm



Situated in a popular residential area just outside Aldridge town centre this three bedroom semi detached property is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. This property would be ideally suited towards an investor and with all amenities close at hand it comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Reception Room (6m x 3m) Kitchen (2.5m x 2.5m) First Floor Bedroom one (3.5m x 3m), Bedroom Two (3m x 3m), Bedroom three (2.5m x 1.5m) Bathroom (1.5m x 1.5m) Outside At the front and rear of the property there is overgrown gardens.

●Guide Price £50,000 PLUS

●Guides are provided as an indication of each seller's minimum expectation. They are not necessarily figures which a property will sell for and may change at any time prior to the auction. Each property will be offered subject to a Reserve (a figure below which the Auctioneer cannot sell the property during the auction) which we expect will be set within the Guide Range or no more than 10% above a single figure Guide



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The Chronicle Thursday, November 23, 2017



Broadway North, Walsall

- Over 60 Retirement Apartment
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- One Bedroom
- Walk in Shower Room
- Communal Lounge



£925 PCM

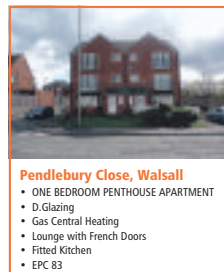


Rothesay Way, Willenhall

- Three/Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Third Reception/Fourth Bedroom
- Kitchen
- EPC 70



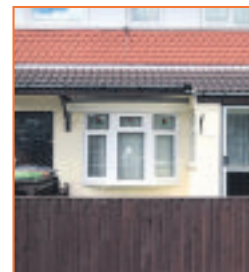
£650 PCM



Pendlebury Close, Walsall

- ONE BEDROOM PENTHOUSE APARTMENT
- D. Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Lounge with French Doors
- Fitted Kitchen
- EPC 83

£525 PCM



Telford Road, Beechdale

- Three Bedroom Terrace
- Entrance Porch/Hall
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Rating 71
- DHSS Accepted



£575 PCM



Ashbourne Road, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom End Terrace
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- New Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens

Three
Bedroom
End Terrace

£550 PCM



St Davids Place, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom Semi
- Entrance Porch
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Sorry no DHSS Pets

Three
Bedroom
Semi

£550 PCM



Cecil Street, Walsall

- FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
- Electric Heating
- Lounge/Integrated Kitchen
- Large Shower Room
- Allocated secure off road parking
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£475.00PCM



Bagnall Street, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom Terraced
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Conservatory
- Family Bathroom

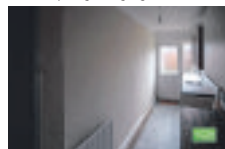


£550 PCM



Jenner Road, Beechdale

- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Front Dining Room
- Rear Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- off road parking and a garage to rear.



£550 PCM



Revival Street, Bloxwich

- TWO BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- Lounge/Diner,
- Kitchen
- Guest W.C.
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking



£550 PCM



Ladypool Close, Rushall

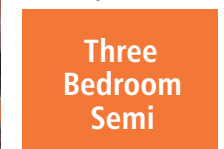
- Two Bedroom recently refurbished First Floor Maisonette
- Open plan Lounge/Kitchen
- shower over bath
- Shared rear garden
- off road parking to side

£475 PCM



Booth Street, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking



£550 PCM



Borneo Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Walk in Shower Cubicle
- Roll top Bath
- Utility
- Rear Garden
- Rating-45



£550 PCM



Stephenson Avenue, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- EPC 74



£550 PCM



Cresswell Crescent, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Flat
- Large Lounge
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Newly Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- DHSS Accepted

£450.00 PCM



Field Road, Bloxwich

- Two Bedroom End-Terrace
- Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge with Patio Doors to Rear Garden
- Bathroom with Shower Over
- Double Glazing
- EPC 82



£550 PCM



Squires Grove, Willenhall

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge with Double Doors
- Fitted Kitchen
- Master Bedroom with Ensuite
- Further Bedroom
- Bathroom



£595 PCM



Taverners Close, Willenhall

- One Bedroom
- Ground Floor Maisonette
- Entrance
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Rating:75



£425 PCM



Terret Close, Walsall

- One Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge With French Doors
- Kitchen with Integrated Appliances
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Rating: 64
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£425 PCM

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Kodiaq is well up to the challenge

By Carmel Stewart

The Kodiaq SUV has the task of breaking new ground in the ever-expanding, highly competitive SUV market as Skoda's first ever seven-seater. And it is well up to the challenge.

As we have come to expect from Skoda, it covers pretty well all bases when it comes to choice – five engines (three petrol; two diesel), five trims, 2WD, 4WD, manual or DSG automatic transmissions and five or seven seats. Those two additional seats are standard in SE L trim and above and can be folded down into the floor when not in use.

The long wheelbase and short overhangs of the Kodiaq allow for a reasonable amount of interior space and, although the middle row of seats can slide and fold, there is a high transmission tunnel which means piggy-in-the-middle will have to share foot space with those on either side.

In addition, the rear two seats are really only suitable for smaller members of the family, or for the school-run.

For a size comparison in the Skoda range, the Kodiaq is slightly longer than the Octavia, while in the SUV segment as a whole, it sits between the Hyundai Santa Fe and the Kia Sorento.

The most economical of the engines tested was the robust 150ps 2.0litre diesel linked to the seven-speed DSG transmission which clocked an official average of 56.5mpg. Average economy of the smaller 1.4litre 150ps petrol unit was a touch under 40mpg and offers a nimble, composed and enjoyable drive. Well matched to the six-speed DSG, it tackled the steepest of inclines with ease.



Ultra-modern connectivity is a high priority in the car



Two extra seats in SE L trim can be folded into the floor



The long wheelbase and short overhangs of the Kodiaq allow for a reasonable amount of interior space

Choice will come down to usage. For those who put in the miles and expect the Kodiaq to earn its keep, clearly the diesel will tick all the boxes.

For school runs and city centre commutes, the petrol will more than suffice.

Options well worth considering include the Drive Mode Select which allows the driver to

adjust the engine management, gearing ratio and power steering input to suit varying road conditions.

Ultra-modern connectivity, while not on everyone's list, has been given a high priority in the Kodiaq, with the inclusion of the Skoda Connect online service which integrates all the traffic flow, Google Earth, fuel stops,

parking info and the like, as well as an automatic emergency call in the event of an accident. In addition, a very useful app alerts the owner to any unauthorised movement of the car.

Fun stuff to look for as you check out the trim levels include umbrellas in the door panels, ice scraper on the fuel cap, foot-

activated power tailgate and rechargeable torch.

The Kodiaq range has a starting price of £22,190 for the S trim, five-seat, 1.4 litre 125ps manual petrol rising to £36,135 for the top spec seven-seat Edition, powered by the 2.0 litre 190ps diesel, 4x4 with the DSG transmission.

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6 Property

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9 Local Information

Public Notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

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WALSALL COUNCIL LICENSING ACT 2003

On Wednesday 15th November 2017, We AK & RK LIMITED applied for the Variation of a Premises Licence for: BOATMANS REST, 20 HIGH STREET, WALSALL WOOD, WALSALL, WS9 9LP

If granted the application will allow the following variation to take place:
Supply of alcohol:
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Friday to Saturday 11:00hrs to 01:00hrs
Regulated Entertainment:
Sunday to Thursday 11:00hrs to 00:30hrs.
Friday to Saturday 11:00hrs to 01:00hrs. Late Night Refreshment:
Sunday to Thursday 23:00hrs to 00:30hrs.
Friday to Saturday 23:00hrs to 01:00hrs.

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to: Walsall Council Licensing Unit, Civic Centre, Darwell Street, Walsall, WS1 1TP
Tel: 01922-653583/653581
Email: licensing@walsall.gov.uk
Representations may be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this notice. A copy of the application for the variation of the above license is kept by the Licensing Unit at the above address.

The application can be viewed Monday to Friday between 9:30am and 4:30pm - except bank holidays. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application the maximum fine is a Level 5 fine on the standard scale.
C.N.A. Risk Management Ltd
Dated: 16/11/2017
Authorised Agent

highways england

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(a) THE M6 AND M5 MOTORWAYS (M6 JUNCTIONS 7 TO 10) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) has made an order on the M6 and M5 Motorways, in the Metropolitan Boroughs of Sandwell and Walsall, to enable the removal of overhead cameras and maintenance works to be carried out.

- The effect of the Order will be to close, at different times, –
- (1) the northbound carriageway of the M6 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 7 to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 10;
 - (2) the southbound carriageway of the M6 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 10 to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 7;
 - (3) the slip roads leading to the northbound carriageway of the M6 at Junction 7 and Junction 9;
 - (4) the slip roads leading to the southbound carriageway of the M6 at Junction 10 and Junction 9;
 - (5) the link road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M5 to the northbound carriageway of the M6 at M6 Junction 8; and
 - (6) the link road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M5 to the southbound carriageway of the M6 at M6 Junction 8.

The work will be carried out overnight between 22:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start at on Monday 4 December 2017 and continue for five nights. The Order will come into force on 27 November 2017.

Vehicles being used for police, fire and rescue authority or ambulance purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer in uniform will be exempt from the closures. Diversion routes via the A34, A4148 and A454 and vice versa will be signed.

For further information please contact Richard Gulliver on 0300 470 3037.

Karen Eustace, an officer in Highways England Company Limited. Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A company registered in England and Wales.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(a) THE M6 AND M54 MOTORWAYS (M6 JUNCTION 11 TO JUNCTION 10) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) intends to make an Order on the M6 and M54 Motorways, in the County of Staffordshire and the Metropolitan Borough of Walsall, to allow camera removal works to be carried out.

- The effect of the Order will be to close –
- (1) the southbound carriageway of the M6 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 11, to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 10;
 - (2) the eastbound carriageway of the M54 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 1, to its junction with M6 at M6 Junction 10a;
 - (3) the entry slip road leading to the southbound carriageway of the M6 at Junction 11; and
 - (4) the entry slip road leading to the eastbound carriageway of the M54 at Junction 1.

The work will be carried out overnight between 22:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start on Thursday 14 December 2017 and continue for two nights. The Order will come into force on 11 December 2017.

Vehicles being used for police, fire and rescue authority or ambulance purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer, will be exempt from the closures. Diversion routes via the A460, the M54, the A449 and the A454 will be signed.

For further information please contact Richard Gulliver on 0300 470 3037.

Karen Eustace, an Officer in Highways England Company Limited. Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A Company registered in England and Wales.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

L&K Transport Ltd of 65 Leslie Road, Wolverhampton WV10 0BT is applying for licence to use Pristine Components Limited, Church Street, Willenhall, West Midlands WV13 1QW as an operating centre for TWO goods vehicles and TWO trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at West Midlands Traffic Area Office, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

Dated: 23rd November 2017

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT. 1982 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE LICENSING OF SEX ESTABLISHMENT

Address of premises: Angels and Sinners, Frederick Street, Walsall WS2 9NE.

Ravinder Singh Grewal of The Post Office, 2 Barton street, West Bromwich, B70 8AJ hereby give notice that I have applied to Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982 for a licence to use the premises referred to above as a sex shop/sex cinema during the hours of Monday to Saturday 10am – 8pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm and non-religious Bank Holidays 10am – 8pm.

Any person wishing to make representations about the application should make them in writing to – Licensing Unit, Walsall Council, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1TP, within 28 days of the date of this notice.

Dated: November 20, 2017

Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email, planningservices@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning, Engineering and Transportation, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

17/0704 Mr John Rushton FOR: ANALEMMATIC ('HUMAN') 12M2 SUNDIAL ON THE NORTH-EASTERN EDGE OF THE CROFT, IN SIGHT OF THE WAR MEMORIAL. AT: THE CROFT PLAY AREA THE CROFT, LITTLE ASTON ROAD, ALDRIDGE, WS9 8NL

17/0855 Mr D Raefi FOR: CHANGE OF USE FROM USE CLASS A1 (SHOPS) TO A5 (HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY). AT: 10, QUEENS PARADE, HIGH STREET, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 2EX

17/1439 Mr Hysni Sula & Mr Illirjan Sula FOR: VARIATION OF PLANNING CONDITION 2 OF 16/1900 TO ALTER THE FRONT ELEVATION TO INCLUDE A DORMER WINDOW AND ENLARGEMENT OF FIRST FLOOR LANDING WINDOW. AT: 9, BEACON HILL, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL, WS9 0RH

17/1477 Danny Collier FOR: SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION. AT: 1, OAKLEAF GARDENS, WALSALL, WS3 4AT

10 Personals

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Chris as Walsall manager in 1995, after the signing of Derek Mountfield



Nicholl heads the ball towards goal during one of his 210 appearances for Aston Villa



A picture captures the impact as Jeff Astle heads the ball



Playing for Villa in the 1970s seen with the League Cup trophy



Chris in his later years, still a favourite with the crowds at the Saddlers

Ex-Walsall boss Chris tells of memory fears

FORMER Walsall manager and Villa captain Chris Nicholl has said he no longer remembers where he lives – due to brain damage caused by years of heading footballs.

The 71-year-old, who still lives in the West Midlands, has said his condition is continuing to get worse. The Northern Ireland international won two League Cups with Villa in the 1970s, famously netting a long-range stunner in the 1977 final against Everton.

After he retired from playing, Nicholl led Walsall to promotion from Division Three in 1995 during a three-year stint as manager.

He spoke to former England striker Alan Shearer as part of a BBC documentary investigating links between dementia and heading footballs.

Nicholl said: "I am brain-damaged from heading footballs.

"My memory is in trouble. Everyone forgets regular things, where your keys are.

"But when you forget where you live, that's different.

"I've had that for the last four or five years, it is definitely getting worse. It bothers me."

Degenerative

Nicholl is among a string of former pros – including Albion legend Jeff Astle – to have been struck down after their playing days have ended.

Astle died in 2002 aged just 59 from chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a degenerative brain disease caused by heading footballs.

His family have been campaigning for years to get the Football Association and FIFA to conduct research into heading.

Shearer, who made his top-flight debut as a teenager under Nicholl at Southampton, said: "It was tough to see the way Chris is now, because he gave me my debut.

"He had me heading 100 or 150 balls a day to improve, but he did it for the right reasons."

The BBC documentary shows current Aston Villa captain John Terry admitting he encourages his 11-year-old daughter Summer Rose to head the ball, even though experts fear girls are at the greatest risk of concussion.

Shearer, 47, had scans and tests to examine how heading the ball affected him, amid fears he has sustained long-term damage.

The results were revealed on the show, Alan Shearer,



Alan Shearer, who fears he may be susceptible to dementia after heading the ball throughout his footballing career

SPORTING FEATURE

By David Cosgrove

Dementia, Football and Me, which was first shown on BBC1 on Sunday, November 12 at 10.30pm and is available on the BBC iPlayer.

The Match of the Day pundit said: "Nowhere near enough research has been done. The authorities have been very reluctant to find out any answers.

"They have swept it under the carpet, which is not good enough.

"Football must look after old players with dementia and put an end to this sense that, once you are done playing, you can be put on the scrapheap.

"It's a tough game, it's a brilliant game, but we have to make sure it's not a killer game."

Experts suspected heading footballs may cause brain damage and dementia for decades but a firm link was not made until the inquest into Astle's death.

A coroner found he died from a form of dementia called CTE, known as boxer's brain, caused by heading footballs.

In the 15 years since, neither the Football Association nor international body FIFA have funded any meaningful research into the dangers of heading footballs.

FA medical director Charlotte Cowie accepted it had avoided the issue in the past but said: "I feel we like are running towards this problem at the moment."

She said the FA were looking to study former professional footballers to get results as quickly as possible, and it could ban children from heading the ball if early evidence showed it damaged the brain.

Knockout night with boxing champ Fury

BOXING fans can enjoy a knockout night as Tyson Fury makes his debut appearance in Wolverhampton for an audience with fans.

The 'Turkey & Tinsel with Tyson' takes place on December 13 at the Ramada Park Hall Hotel. The former unified heavyweight champion of the world will share his personal story – live and unscripted on stage, interviewed by Gareth A Davis.

He will answer questions from the audience, with the festive evening also featuring a mix of top entertainment, red carpet drinks reception, memorabilia auction and Christmas meal.

Tickets start at £55, rising to £85 for a silver package and £150 for gold, which includes a picture with Fury. For the full VIP experience at £200 guests can also enjoy a VIP meet and greet, a prime table location and a signed glove.

Fundraising will be in aid of Foundation DB set up by Wolves captain Danny Bath. Tickets are being sold at www.tysonfury.eventbrite.co.uk

Pitching in for work on new 3G surface

A NEW 3G pitch is to be launched at Dudley's Dell Stadium. The modern playing surface will replace the existing 18-year-old artificial grass pitch.

The work, part of Dudley council's playing pitch strategy, began on Monday and should take around 12 weeks to complete. The project was developed in partnership with Sport England and the Football Association.

The £660,000 cost will be made up of £550,000 funding through The FA, The Football Foundation and £110,000 from Dudley Council.

Existing users of the facility have been temporarily relocated to other sites in the borough and the Saturday morning ParkRun has been suspended for the duration of the works.

This investment is in addition to the council's commitment to invest £22m in the wider leisure service which includes plans for a new leisure centre in Dudley, as well as refurbishing and modernising the existing leisure centres in Halesowen and Stourbridge. Booking enquiries should be made to Steve Gay, area manager, at steve.gay@dudley.gov.uk

Greats turn out for former team-mate

MIDLAND footballing greats came together to help raise funds for former Albion and Villa goalkeeper Derek Dudley, who is suffering from a terminal illness. The 47-year-old contracted a serious liver condition and it was his final wish to bring former friends from the footballing world together for a final game. It was staged on Sunday at Sutton Coldfield Town FC's home ground where a number of former players were watched by a large crowd.

Dudley, who spent four years at Villa, lives in Rugeley with his wife Helen and children Daniel, 13, and Elizabeth, 11.

His bucket list includes having a nice meal with his children and getting the 'lads' together for one last game.

He was joined by members of Villa's 1982 European Cup winning side including Peter Withe, Tony Morley and Gordon Cowans as well former Baggies team-mates including Daryl Burgess and Darren Bradley.

When his football career ended, Derek became a teacher, including a spell at The Brades Lodge school in Tividale.



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Darlo make it through to Vase last 16

Darlaston 2 Christ the King FC 1
DARLASTON Town (1874) progressed to the last 16 of the Birmingham County FA Vase at the expense of Coventry Alliance Premier League team Christ the King FC.

The opening exchanges were even but Darlaston began to gain momentum and took a deserved 20th minute lead. Sam Giles made progress down the right wing and whipped in an excellent cross, under pressure from Marc Gumley, Luke Charlton half connected with an eight-yard shot, the ball rebounding off Gumley into the path of debutant Leon Taylor who tapped home from four yards.

Darlaston extended their lead on 32 minutes. An attempted clearance from Marc Ryan fell to Ant Follows 20 yards out and the midfielder volleyed home giving keeper Jack Wear no chance.

Darlaston were looking to put the game out of reach second half and Giles and Taylor both hit the bar. The visitors were buoyed by the hosts' failure to take their chances and pulled a goal back on 72 minutes.

An excellent right wing cross from Tom Adkins was met by Thompson whose superb header from 12 yards found the top corner.

Two minutes later the visitors were reduced to 10 men when Thompson, already booked for dissent, was dismissed for a second yellow card following a heavy challenge on Hayden Hughes.

Scott Broadway had a chance to put the game out of reach in the 81st minute but keeper Wear pulled off an excellent save from his 15-yard shot.

On Saturday, league leaders Newport Town are the visitors to The Paycare Ground, kick off 2pm.

Olympic are undone by triple late salvo

Workington 4 Rushall Olympic 1
THREE goals in the last 15 minutes helped Workington to a 4-1 Evo-Stik Premier victory at home to Rushall Olympic at Borough Park.

Dave Symington tested Pics keeper Jahquill Hill on nine minutes, but the Bermuda international parried the ball away.

The deadlock was broken on 39 minutes when a Conor Tinnion free-kick was turned in at the back post by Matt Douglas.

Pics equalised came on 64 minutes, with captain Joe Hull heading home a Duke free-kick.

Workington went ahead again on 74 minutes, with Scott Allison on hand to tap home into an empty net after Hill spilled a Sam Joel effort from 18 yards. The home side doubled their lead on 89 minutes when Nathan Waterston cut inside from the right past two Pics defenders and slotted beyond Hill.

The scoring was completed by Allison in stoppage time.

Late kick puts Seconds into semi-finals

Walsall United 29 Broadstreet 2nds 28

WALSALL'S second team produced a remarkable second half recovery to secure a place in the League Cup semi-final.

They faced a strong Broadstreet team that included some of Wasps Academy players and only 20 minutes had been played when the visitors had established a 21-0 advantage. Good support play had created two tries for the visitors, while the other score came from an interception and a 60m run to the tryline. But the Walsall forwards began

to take control of the game for long periods. This eventually resulted in a try as No8 Jamie Hickman supported scrum half James Quigley when he took a quick penalty. The second half saw the hosts continue to push forward and good drives by Matt Lockett and Louis Vale saw Hickman get his second from close range.

Fly half Mitch Carless added the conversion and then put over two more excellent touchline conversions after two more tries from close range. Hickman got his third before Lockett squeezed

over near the corner flag. But meanwhile, the visitors had increased their advantage by scoring their fourth try after Walsall gave away another intercepted pass.

The hosts found themselves still trailing by two points as they forged forward during the final play of the game. The referee awarded a penalty to Walsall at the breakdown. Carless stepped up and put over a superb 35m kick to win what was an entertaining game.

This Saturday Walsall return to league action when Tamworth are the visitors to Delves Road.

Wood back on top after 5-star show

Heath Hayes 2 Walsall Wood 5

TWO goals for the home side in the last 12 minutes made the scoreline rather flattering for the hosts as the Wood juggernaut reached top spot.

Wood now head the table with three games in hand over deposited leaders Studley, who drew at home to Brocton.

It took Wood just eight minutes to go ahead, great approach play opening up the defence before Paul Sullivan slipped the ball past former Wood keeper Mark Wiggins. Eight minutes later great awareness from Craig Deakin as he raced into the left of the box saw him set up Andrew Westwood to fire in number two.

Right on the stroke of half-time Sam Agar deservedly tucked home Wood's third.

On 67 minutes Sullivan popped up in the box, his shot beat Wiggins, bounced off the post and Westwood pounced to make it four.

Against the run of play 10 minutes later Jake Humphries pulled a goal back, the first conceded by Wood in more than six hours. With three minutes to go, a determined left wing run by Peter Till saw his cross bulleted home from the head of Agar. A minute from time Regan Smith pulled one back.

On Tuesday, Wood were in league cup action at Stourport Swifts and on Saturday visit Atherstone Town in the league game before a Walsall Senior Cup tie at home to Wednesfield, then Stourport away again in the FA Vase.

Bloxwich squander two-goal advantage

Bloxwich 2 Coalville 2

BLOXWICH were left deflated after letting slip a two-goal lead in an eventful draw at Sneyd on Saturday afternoon.

Bloxwich took the lead when Jake Perkins found Alex Hill who coolly slotted home. The lead was extended with captain Eddie Marrocco getting a deft touch on a Matt Baldwin hit in the Coalville 'D'.

But after pulling back two goals to level, Coalville left Sneyd ecstatic with a point while Bloxwich were gutted to have thrown away the opportunity.

Coventry are Bloxwich's opponents on Saturday.

WHITS GREEN ABOUT GILLS

UNDER-PRESSURE boss Jon Whitney insists Walsall were itching to get back in action for Tuesday's home clash with Fleetwood after defeat to Gillingham.

Saddlers dominated and enjoyed 63 per cent possession, but slipped to a 1-0 loss against the Gills, writes Joe Masi.

It means Whitney's side are just one point clear of the League One relegation zone.

Whitney, who was pleased with his side's performance, was expecting them to get a result against the Cod Army.

"I think it's easier to bounce back after a performance like we had against Gillingham," the boss said. "Straight after the game I was enthused and energised by the players. To see the result hurt them like that shows that they care. The important thing now is to keep that belief."

Granted

Fans saw at the Banks's on Saturday just how cruel the game can be as the Gills secured what can only be described as a smash-and-grab.

Saddlers dominated from the off. But for all their dominance, their only attempts at goal were coming from distance.

And minutes before the interval, the Gills snatched the lead - due to a comedy of Walsall errors. After initially tricking his way past Tom Eaves, Luke Leahy then dallied on the ball, allowing the striker to regain possession.

The former Shrewsbury man then nutmegged Jon Guthrie and sent in a cross which Liam Kinsella simply had to tap back to Roberts.

But the youngster under-hit his pass, allowing Conor Wilkinson to nip in and calmly slot the ball into the net.

Saddlers dominated the second half but only created two clear goalscoring opportunities.

And if results don't improve soon, the rest of the campaign will be a scrap against the drop.



Amadou Bakayoko goes for goal as the Saddlers look to find a way past Gillingham

Khalsa put three past former keeper

SPORTING Khalsa saw goal-keeper Tom Turner switch to Lye Town on the eve of their Midland Premier Division clash - but have the last laugh with a 3-0 win.

Goals from Kyle Brady, Dave Meese and Mykel Beckley earned Ian Rowe's side a 12th win from their last 14 league

games to go top. Khalsa had to draft in Paul Evans at short notice after Turner's departure and the absence of Sam Arnold.

Khalsa had been dumped out of the FA Vase by Bromsgrove Sporting in the week and Rowe said: "We just had to make sure we bided our time and then took our chances when they came."

West Midlands Premier leaders Wolverhampton Sporting Community came from a goal down to win 6-1 at Smethwick, their 14th win from 15 games.

Tom Hill and Jak Barnes both scored twice with Angelo Franco and Phill McNulty also on target as Sporting made it 102 goals from 22 games in all.

★★★

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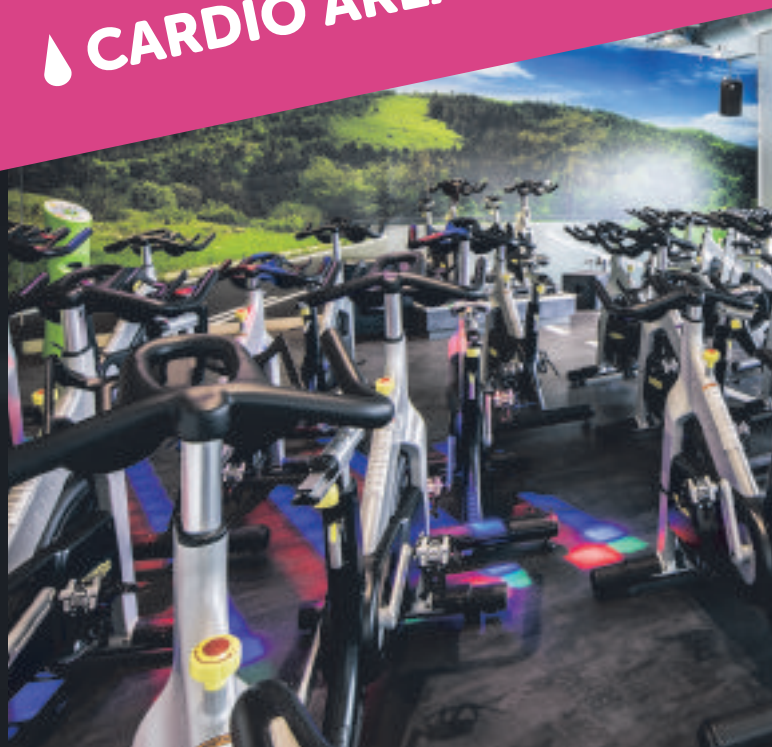
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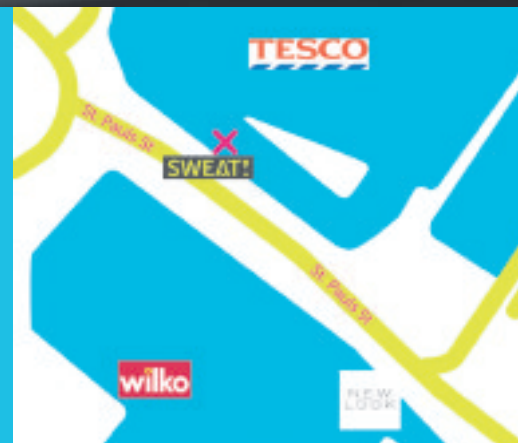
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